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Father's 3,500-mile journey to give his son the gift of life

By Owen Hughes

AN Abingdon man who had suffered from kidney failure for five years received "the gift of positivity" last month after his father made the 3,500 mile trip from his home in Canada to donate one of his kidneys.

Robert Pont, 27, who works at Tesco Extra in Abingdon, was diagnosed with Stage 3 Chronic Kidney Disease in 2012, which left him facing the prospect of dialysis if an organ donor could not be found.

Having managed the condition in the intervening five years, Robert's conditioned worsened last year and a transplant became the only option.

His father, Simon Pont, 59, who moved to London Ontario, Canada, in 2007, immediately stepped up to offer his son a health kidney and flew to the Churchill Hospital in Oxford for tests.

The results revealed that only an identical twin could have been a better match for Robert.

Robert had been able to manage his condition with the help of the Oxford Kidney Unit through medication and diet, cutting out chocolate, beer and certain fruits and nuts, until the transplant operation was unavoidable any longer.

Robert said: "My kidney function dropped below 10 per cent and that triggered alarm bells with the hospital. "I'm still a bit tender but feeling

miles better than I was two weeks ago and people who know me said they could notice a difference straight away."

Creatinine levels in Robert's blood were dangerously high before the three hour operation on December 28.

Prior to the transplant, Robert would feel drained of energy by mid-day, affecting his work and home life.

Having one kidney has become something of a family tradition for the Ponts, Robert's grandfather had one removed around 15 years ago, but dad Simon said it was "not a trend I'm keen to continue".

Simon added: "Since Robert was diagnosed, I've met a number of people who have had one kidney all their life and then you suddenly realise that being a live donor, yes there are some risks attached, but the benefit is you're making a huge difference.

"You're giving somebody else their life back."

Robert said: "A live donor can be quite a substantial life changing event for someone.

"Even if people can't donate an organ, giving blood can be a step in the right direction to helping someone and give them that gift of positivity."

As the organ came from a live donor, Robert can expect the new kidney to last more than 20 years, whereas organs from deceased people usually last between 10 and 15 years.



"You realise being a live donor there are some risks, but the benefit is you're making a huge difference"
Robert's dad Simon Pont

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Advertising - 01235 511700

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Newsdesk - 01235 516931

news@taylornewspapers.co.uk

Group Editor:

Karen Neville

01235 516931

karen@taylornewspapers.co.uk

Reporters:

George Welch

01235 516919

george@taylornewspapers.co.uk

Samantha McGregor

01235 516908

sam@taylornewspapers.co.uk

Eva Astreindou

01235 516932

eva@taylornewspapers.co.uk

Distribution & Subscriptions

01235 516903

distribution@taylornewspapers.co.uk

Accounts - 01235 516911

accounts@taylornewspapers.co.uk

Production - 01235 516934

studio@taylornewspapers.co.uk

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Pedestrianisation plans to tackle city congestion

By Owen Hughes

RADICAL new plans to tackle city centre congestion could see large areas of Oxford become entirely pedestrianised within the next 20 years.

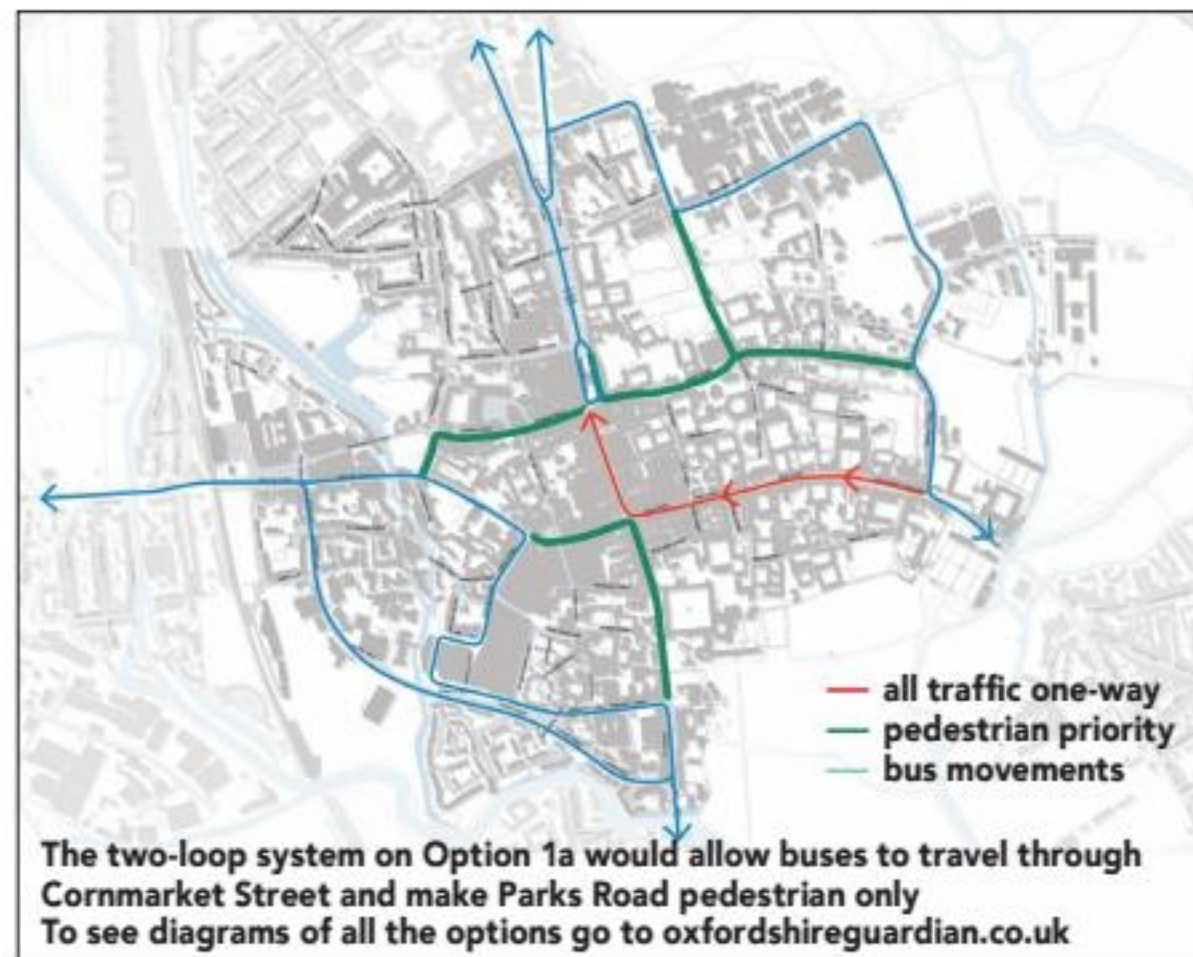
The county and city councils enlisted experts to help inform a transport and public realm strategy designed to ease congestion in the heart of the city.

The four concepts put forward for the Oxford Local Plan 2036 look at reducing congestion by extending footway space for pedestrians, creating a series of one-way zones for buses and two-way for cyclists, as well as a major re-routing of buses in and out of the centre.

The first two ideas from Phil Jones Associates and ITP (Integrated Transport Planning) would create a 'two-loop system' with the city divided around Cornmarket Street, which would be opened up to one-way bus traffic linking High Street to Magdalen Street, and completely pedestrianising St Aldates, Broad Street and George Street.

The two designs in the second option reveal a one-way system around the city, turning St Aldates and High Street into one-way bus routes heading towards Longwall Street.

Councillor Alex Hollingsworth, board member for planning and regulatory services, said: "One of the benefits of getting the buses to work more efficiently in the city centre is that it increases their reliability further out, at their destinations and their origins,



meaning more people are more likely to use them.

"For example at the moment there isn't a reliable bus service between Cowley and Headington and everybody knows it.

"By making the buses work more efficiently, if you can get from Cowley to Headington reliably on the bus, you're less likely to use your car."

Councillor Yvonne Constance, cabinet member for environment and economy for the county, said: "The county and city councils share the

same aims for Oxford when it comes to getting people around Oxford efficiently, improving air quality, reducing congestion and protecting and enhancing the city's internationally renowned heritage and public realm.

"The options would complement plans for a zero emission zone which will see improvements in air quality in Oxford in the coming years."

Longer term, the county council has proposed a range of options for getting in and around Oxford in 2050, including bus tunnels under the city centre.

InBrief

Pre-inquest reviews for Didcot deaths

PRE-INQUEST reviews will be held for the four men who died in the Didcot Power Station collapse of February 2016.

Ken Cresswell, 57; John Shaw, 61; Michael Collings, 53 and Christopher Huxtable, 34; were killed when the boiler house of Didcot Power Station A came down as it was being prepared for demolition.

The pre-inquest review will be held at Oxford Coroner's Court at County Hall in New Road on January 31.

It will make plans for the final inquest hearing, including details of any witnesses who will need to give evidence.

Community police awards launch

NOMINATIONS are now open for this year's best community policing awards.

Now in its 17th year, the event at Eynsham Hall near Witney provides an opportunity to recognise and nominate the work of officers, staff and volunteers who have made the greatest contribution over the past year.

The ceremony in May will decide who is the winner across seven categories – community police officer, police community support officer, special constable, diversity champion, cadet, volunteer and community volunteer of the year.

To nominate someone before February 26, visit <https://tinyurl.com/yawmzq2p>.

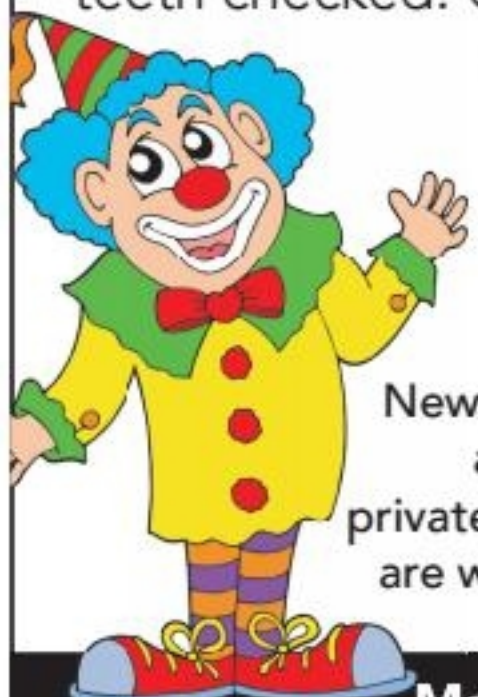
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First aid skills put Jessica first

A 15-year-old girl from Abingdon is in the running for national cadet of the year after winning a competition.

Jessica Field, a Year 11 student at John Mason School, was named cadet of the year for Vale and West Berkshire in an event held in Aylesbury.

She will now go on to compete for the title of overall London and South Regional Cadet of the Year and National Cadet of the Year in February.

In a competition designed to single out the district's most outstanding St John Ambulance Cadet earlier this month, Jessica had to complete a first aid challenge to demonstrate her life saving abilities, take part in a debate, as well as give a presentation and be interviewed by judges.

The teenager stood out from her competition and will now represent fellow cadets from across Oxfordshire, Berkshire and Buckinghamshire, throughout this year.

She said: "I feel privileged to be representing other cadets in this role and want to demonstrate that we, as cadets, are willing, intelligent and committed to what we do."

Jessica started volunteering with the charity nearly six years ago.



She has completed her cadet trainee first aider qualification, and is working towards her Grand Prior Award, the highest accolade a cadet can achieve.

She has used her first aid skills on several occasions, helping a

runner who had an asthma attack and, closer to home, when her cousin had a severe nose bleed.

Jessica hopes to work in the medical profession and has already secured part-time work in a pharmacy.

Teenager's bid to end loneliness

By George Welch

A KIND-HEARTED teenager is appealing for the public's help as she prepares to launch a meeting place for lonely and vulnerable adults.

Chloe Prior, 18, from East Hendred, wants to provide a 'warm, happy environment' for people in Didcot to 'feel less lonely, be themselves and relax' – a service she feels is missing from the town.

The teenager, inspired while working at Changing Lives charity shop in Broadway, was prompted to take action after coming across a customer alone and asleep on a bench late at night.

The elderly woman, who lived on her own and is now in a care home, was seen on other nights walking head on into traffic.

Miss Prior said: "I tried waking her up but it took a lot to get her in my car to take her home."

"She was laughing at herself and couldn't remember where she lived."

"Eventually we got her home, I was so concerned I rang 999 but they



couldn't help as she wasn't injured in any way.

"It was very worrying and had a big impact on me and is a major reason why I now want to set up the meeting place."

She added: "I believe this really needs to happen and as soon as possible because there are people so close to home struggling so badly in all different ways. I strongly believe that loneliness is a killer."

Miss Prior will help lead the two-hour sessions, which are planned for twice a week from the end of the month.

She has the support of town

Chloe Prior and Changing Lives volunteer Kevin and left, Councillor James Hart



councillor James Hart, and the pair are closing in on a location for the meetings.

The Millbrook ward representative, who volunteered at soup kitchens over Christmas, intends to get people on board with different areas of expertise, such as doctors and family liaison officers, to cover wide-ranging issues.

He said: "We want to help the people of Didcot and the surrounding villages in helping in all different aspects of life. We're there to listen and there will be a drop-in centre very shortly."

To donate, contact changinglivesdidcot01@gmail.com or chloe.prior@hotmail.co.uk

Fewer homes plan welcomed as more land for school promised

A CAMPAIGN group fighting for "proportionate and sustainable" development in Wantage and Grove has welcomed a developer's decision to re-submit an application with fewer houses.

The first application in April 2016 for 456 homes on the area known as Monk's Farm, to the north of Grove, was due to be decided in June last year, but was delayed by concerns.

Now, developers Gallagher Estates

and Gleeson has submitted a new version of the application, reducing the number of homes to 394 and promising more land to facilitate the expansion of Grove CE Primary School.

Julie Mabblerley, from the Wantage and Grove Campaign Group for sustainable development (WAGCG), welcomed the new application, which has reduced the number of homes by nearly 14 per cent.

She said: "The revised proposal...

should provide a link road to Denchworth Road until the Grove Airfield Road to the west of the cemetery is built; it will provide a northern access with parking for staff and parents to Grove CE Primary School and more green space near the brook and between the by-way and the railway. Our only comment so far is that the school parking might be more useful if the access provided a drop-off zone on a one-way access as

well as parking spaces."

A letter from agent Savills said the applicants believe that, while amendments have resulted in a substantial reduction in development area, "the proposals...will provide an excellent environment for residents seeking new accommodation in the district".

View the new plans at whitehorsedc.gov.uk using reference number P16/V0981/O.

InBrief

Driver failed to stop

A DRIVER fled the scene of an accident after crashing into another car on New Year's Eve in Didcot.

Police are appealing for witnesses following the fail-to-stop collision between a blue VW Bora or Passat and a silver Citroen C3 on the Lower Broadway at around 11pm.

The collision caused damage to the front of the VW and to the rear offside of the Citroen.

The driver of the Citroen, a 39-year-old female, suffered minor injuries during the collision.

She was treated at the scene by ambulance staff and did not require hospital treatment.

Investigating officer PC Matthew Bowden, said: "I would like to speak to anyone who witnessed the collision or who has any information which could assist our investigation."

"We would like to make contact the driver of the VW involved in the collision as they failed to stop at the scene."

If you can help, call 101.

Road closure

A ROAD will be temporarily closed next month due to essential repair work.

A section of Main Street on West Hagbourne will be closed from February 5 to 15 while footway and kerbing works are carried out.

To check the extent of the closure and also the alternative route for traffic, visit <https://tinyurl.com/hr62szy>.

>> Got a story? Contact the newsdesk on 01235 516919

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Panto fun to mark re-opening of refurbished Corn Exchange

By Eva Astreinidou

REDECORATED and re-roofed, Wallingford's Corn Exchange is finally re-opening with a bang this month after a major £650,000 refurbishment.

The town landmark will be welcoming back its loyal supporters and fans of theatre with a high-octane rock-n-roll performance of Cinderella tomorrow (Friday).

More than £500,000 has been spent on repairing the Grade II listed Victorian building since major refurbishment works began in June.

In their 70th annual pantomime, the Sinodun Players and director Marilyn Johnstone promise to deliver a show full of colour and larger than life characters, including the favourite ugly sisters, Buttons and Baron Hardup, and of course Cinderella.

Corn Exchange favourite Fiona Huntingford-Ledger plays Buttons, while West End professional musician and arranger Rob Alderton takes the helm as the show's musical director.

Speaking about the big night, Fiona said: "We're very excited to be bringing a rock and roll pantomime to the Corn Exchange, which is looking wonderful."



Work was carried out after the launch of the appeal last year

"It's exciting, different and should be a huge hit with all the family."

The pantomime will be the first show staged at the Corn Exchange since the work on the roof, heating and ventilation system was completed.

The refurbishment project remains ongoing and £150,000 is still needed to complete it.

Oliver Hemmings, chairman of Corn

Exchange Wallingford Ltd, said: "We are grateful to our sponsors, including South Oxfordshire District Council."

"We've also done some work in the auditorium but there's lots more to do."

The Sinodun Players, a registered charity that owns the venue, launched an appeal in January last year to raise money to replace the 160-year-old glass roof on the building after leaks



in poor weather that were ruining the building's infrastructure.

The charity had set aside £150,000 for the project thanks to previous funds raised, but worked hard to raise more cash and apply for government grants to secure the future of the venue.

The pantomime will run for 15 shows until January 27 and already the matinees have sold out.

A date for a formal opening night ceremony has not yet been confirmed.

To book, visit www.cornexchange.org.uk.

InBrief

Improved facilities

SWIMMERS at Henley Leisure Centre are enjoying refurbished changing facilities following a £150,000 upgrade.

The refurbishment work, which was carried out in November and December, has improved the pool-side changing and toilet areas.

There are new changing cubicles, lockers and vanity units, while new LED lighting has been installed to be more eco friendly.

Councillor Lynn Lloyd, cabinet member for leisure, said the work makes the changing area a "much brighter and more welcoming area".

The council is now planning to improve dry-side facilities, including squash courts and the gym.

Help find vehicle

POLICE are asking the public to help find a vehicle acting suspiciously in Brightwell-cum-Sotwell.

Last Wednesday morning a farm owner in the twin-village was approached by a man who he believed was acting shadily.

The man left in a black Nissan Vivaro pick-up, registration B***TLE, which has been previously connected with another report of suspicious activity.

If you have seen the vehicle call police on 101 as soon as possible.

>> Choose charity for us to support in 2018, details p16

Grants boost community projects

A VILLAGE is gearing up for a new recreational area after receiving cash to remove a large electricity pylon.

Stanford in the Vale Parish Council received £10,833 to remove the problematic pylon and make way for a community building, sports pitches and play areas at the 19-acre site.

The funding boost came as part a series of district council grants worth £107,000.

Communities from Hinksey to Hendred and Botley to Blewbury will benefit from the grants, with a total of £55,306 going to areas close to where new housing

developments have been built.

Royal British Legion clubs in Abingdon and East Challow received £6,050 for general refurbishments, while Kennington Parish Council received £4,750 to help towards a new pavilion.

A spokesperson from Challow Royal British Legion said the grant will allow the roof repairs to be made sooner than expected, adding: "This well-used hall is a social hub for the area and the improvements to the club will be appreciated by all club users."

Other donations include contributions to St Peter and Paul Church in North Hinksey

(£4,088 to improve heating, toilets and windows), Snells Hall in East Hendred (£1,000 to upgrade lighting), Blewbury Parish Council (£6,257 for physical activity equipment) and Watchfield Parish Council (£11,146 to improve play area and to buy a defibrillator).

Vale of the White Horse district councillor Charlotte Dickson, cabinet member for grants at the district council, said the donations are particularly important due to new developments in the Vale.

The council plans to build around 20,500 new homes between 2011 and 2031, as per part one of its local plan.

College set to extend facilities to public

OUTDOOR sports facilities could soon be available in Faringdon after a college promised to open the doors on part of its new development to the public.

Faringdon Community College has submitted plans to the Vale of White Horse District Council for a new three-storey teaching block at the rear of the site including outdoor courts, playing fields and 28 parking spaces.

Under the Community Use Plan, the facilities will provide opportunities for local people and sports organisations to participate in activities, especially those from what it considers priority groups.

The college said in its application that the premises will provide affordable access outside of core times to sports

organisations "particularly among low participant groups" and those "under represented for the particular activity engaged in".

Among its other aims are to encourage the range, quality and number of college sports club links, increase the number of people with disabilities participating in sport, and to generate positive attitudes in young people.

The comprehensive school said in its travel plan that it has "been asked to expand in size" to accommodate an extra 400 students and 17 staff over the next five years due to the growing number of families moving to the surrounding villages.

Faringdon Community College was rated as 'outstanding' at its last Ofsted inspection in 2008.



The new sports areas and facilities will be available to the community when not in use by the college as part of its expansion plans. Picture: Google

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News

Hospitals forced to postpone non-urgent

By Owen Hughes

BLACK alert has been declared at two A&Es in Oxfordshire as hospitals across the country delay non-emergency appointments affecting thousands of patients in a bid to combat severe pressure on health services.

The John Radcliffe Hospital, Churchill Hospital and Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre have postponed non-urgent planned operations due to the high demand over the winter period following advice from NHS England.

Although the Oxford hospitals have not set a time frame, recommendations suggest the deferral of all non-urgent inpatient elective care until after January 31.

HNS England classifies a black alert as a "serious incident" and is the highest level of alert for hospitals, which means maximum bed capacity has been reached leading to cancellations and patients being turned away from A&E. The A&Es affected are at the JR and at Horton General Hospital in Banbury.

All cancer operations, outpatient appointments, and time-critical procedures should still go ahead as planned at the three Oxfordshire hospitals.

Oxford University Hospitals Trust said: "This is not a

decision we take lightly and we are grateful for the patience and understanding of those patients and their families who will be affected.

"All patients who have had procedures postponed will be contacted directly to let them know and have their operations rescheduled."

The National Emergency Pressures Panel's (NEPP) met twice in one day on Tuesday last week at NHS England after hospitals reported they were unable to handle the sustained pressure from high patient numbers this winter.

Health services have also been advised by the panel to allow mixed sex wards for patients.

The panel discussed the high levels of respiratory illness, bed occupancy levels giving limited capacity to deal with demand surges, early indications of flu prevalence and some reports suggesting a rise in the severity of illness among patients arriving at A&Es.

Professor Sir Bruce Keogh, chairman of the NEPP, said: "I want to thank NHS staff who have worked incredibly hard under sustained pressure to take care of patients over the Christmas period.

"We expect these pressures to continue and there are early signs of increased flu prevalence.

The John Radcliffe Hospital has had to postpone non-urgent planned operations and a black alert has been declared on the A&E department



"The NHS needs to take further action to increase capacity and minimise disruptive last minute cancellations."

Residents in Oxford are being

'No plan' to delay chemotherapy

CANCER patients at Oxford's Churchill Hospital face possible delays to their treatment due to a major shortage of specialist nurses, according to a leaked memo.

The memo by Dr Andrew Weaver was circulated to staff, warning the number of chemotherapy cycles offered to the terminally ill would have to be cut because of a lack of staff trained to deal with medication.

In the memo which was leaked to The Times, it said proposals set out by the head of chemotherapy for Oxford University Hospitals Trust are believed to be 'unprecedented'.

But the Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust says no decisions have been made as far as delaying treatment is concerned or regarding the number of cycles.

According to The Times, Dr Weaver said: "Currently we are down approximately 40 per cent on the establishment of nurses on DTU [day treatment unit] and

as a consequence we are having to delay chemotherapy patients' starting times to four weeks.

"For example where normally six cycles are given then teams should consider reducing to four cycles in total.

"I know that many of us will find it difficult to accept these changes but the bottom line is that the current situation with limited numbers of staff is unsustainable."

Dr Weaver added that, while he wants to protect treatments that aim to cure patients, chemotherapy cycles for later treatments that alleviate symptoms will have to be spaced out further or cut down.

The newspaper said the memo warned there is 'no prospect for improvement' for at least 18 months to two years.

A spokesperson from OUH reassured patients no changes have been made nor would they without full consultation.

The spokesperson said: "The internal email from Dr

Andrew Weaver sets out some of the challenges facing our chemotherapy service, with his ideas for how to tackle these issues, and invites constructive comments and alternative proposals from other cancer doctors and clinical staff.

"However, it does not represent a change to our formal policy for chemotherapy treatment."

He added: "Any decision to change the approach to cancer treatment so significantly would require a thorough assessment of the potential impact on the quality and safety of treatment and care provided to cancer patients."

He acknowledged the "ongoing challenge to recruit nursing staff"

Theresa May was challenged over the leaked memo during yesterday's Prime Minister's Questions.

She echoed comments from the OUH, saying there are "absolutely no plans" to delay chemotherapy or reduce the number of cycles for patients in Oxfordshire.

Join ambulance service and make a difference

JOB seekers considering a career in health care will be able to attend the first of South Central Ambulance Service's annual recruitment open days in Bicester this weekend.

The Oxfordshire based emergency service, which provides care to more than four million people, will host the recruitment event at the trust's headquarters at Northern House,

Bicester, on Saturday.

The event will give people the opportunity to find out about a range of both clinical and non-clinical vacancies.

Victoria Dooley, HR manager at SCAS, said: "I would urge anyone who is currently employed and looking for a fresh challenge, studying and considering where to begin their career, or those between jobs or looking to return

to work to come along to our recruitment open day.

"The variety of roles that we have mean that whatever your skills and experience, you could be working for SCAS and making a real difference every day you come to work. There isn't much better job satisfaction than that."

SCAS staff will be on hand to chat about emergency and non-emergency roles from 10am to 2pm.

planned operations until end of month and A&E on black alert

'Not a decision we take lightly'



advised to check whether patients should use the emergency services by downloading Oxfordshire CCG's free smartphone app from oxfordshireccg.nhs.uk.

"The NHS needs to take further action to increase capacity..."

NEPP chairman Professor Sir Bruce Keogh

GP has heart surgery called off on day of his admission

A North Oxford GP had his heart surgery cancelled on the day of admission as pressure increases on hospitals.

Dr Dave Triffitt was scheduled for cardiac surgery to treat a congenital heart condition on Wednesday last week but received a phone call on the day he was due for admission to the John Radcliffe Hospital to say the operation had been cancelled.

He said: "I got a phone call from the cardiothoracic secretary to explain that the hospital was on black alert and they would reschedule the surgery, but they couldn't really give me an idea of time."

Dr Triffitt added: "Because of the nature of the operation, I was going to be off for six to eight weeks so we had to get a locum in and cancel all my clinics."

"But as soon as I found out and had digested the information, I called my practice manager and explained what had happened and she put some clinics on for me today."

"It's quite disruptive for the staff. All my colleagues have been great about it but they were surprised to see me back in work."

Dr Triffitt said that he had "underestimated how geared up you



Dr Dave Triffitt says he appreciates how his patients feel having had his own operation cancelled

get for this kind of surgery".

"I think that's the big surprise," he said. "I had never appreciated on a personal level how destructive that is for people in these situations."

"It's not the kind of thing people come and talk to you about so having a personal experience of it really gives you an insight into how patients must be feeling."

Jailed for heinous sexual offences

A MAN has been jailed for 11 years for committing 'heinous' sexual offences, one of which was against a child.

Peter England, 39, of Quarry Road, Chadlington, near Chipping Norton, was found guilty of two counts of rape and one count of sexual activity with a child after an eight-day trial at Oxford Crown Court in November last year.



Peter England

He was sentenced to 11 years' imprisonment at The Old Bailey in London on Monday.

He will remain on the sex offenders' register for life and a sexual offences prevention order was also granted.

The offences took place in 2011 and in 2016 in Oxfordshire.

England was arrested in June 2016 and charged with the offences in April last year.

Investigating officer, Detective Constable Eddie Hurley said: "I would like to thank the victim for coming forward and reporting the offences. She has shown incredible strength and bravery throughout this difficult period."

"I am satisfied that England has been given an appropriate sentence for his heinous crimes and the public will be protected from this dangerous offender."

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News

InBrief

Join Winter Walk

A CHARITY is ringing in the new year with its fourth annual Winter Walk event at Blenheim Palace.

People are invited to take in the beautiful grounds in Woodstock while raising money for Sobell House, Oxfordshire's largest hospice.

The event starts at 10.30am on Sunday and costs £16 per person - under 12s are free.

All proceeds from the event are donated to Sobell House as the hospice continues to work towards its target of raising an additional £4million to expand its services.

The walk will start and finish at the Palace's Pleasure Gardens and is a suitable route for everyone.

To register, visit <https://www.sobellhouse.org/winterwalk/>.

Building new homes

CONSTRUCTION work on 26 homes in Ducklington, near Witney, is under way.

Deanfield Meadow, in the centre of the village, will consist of 14 private and 12 affordable homes.

A number of homes will be available to buy off-plan from the spring.

Developers Deanfield Homes will invest more than £200,000 into the village as part of the project.

Cash will be used towards a new footpath linking the village to the recreation ground and contributions towards education and local community facilities.

Driver guilty of sex assaults on three women

Vulnerable victims attacked in car

By Owen Hughes

A TAXI driver for vulnerable adults who sexually assaulted three women with learning difficulties in south Oxfordshire has been sentenced to more than five years in prison.

William Busher, 69, of Long Lane, Hillingdon, committed the sexual assaults on numerous occasions while working as a driver for vulnerable adults.

He sexually assaulted the victims during journeys as he drove the three women to their day centres and places of work in the Henley-on-Thames area between February 2012 and June 2016.

He was sentenced at Oxford Crown Court on Monday to a total of five years and four months' imprisonment, placed on the Sex Offenders' Register indefinitely, and was given a restraining order preventing him from contacting his victims.

At a hearing in November, Busher pleaded guilty to seven counts of sexual activity and two counts of inciting

William Busher has been jailed for attacking the women



sexual activity with a person with a mental disorder impeding choice.

Busher was charged with the offences on October 24 last year.

Investigating officer, Detective Constable Sophie Holliss, based at Cowley police station, said: "This has been a long and complex investigation involving three vulnerable victims with learning disabilities. Busher abused his position of trust in order to take advantage of their vulnerabilities for his own sexual gratification.

"I would like to particularly thank the victims for their bravery in coming forward to report this."

A40 chaos after lorry overturns



AN overturned lorry on the A40 in west Oxfordshire caused chaos for commuters on Tuesday morning.

Police closed both sides of the road between Burford, at Burford Roundabout, and Worsham, at the roundabout connecting with Burford

Road. The crash happened shortly before 6am and there was no official diversion in place until the road reopened at midday.

Police tweeted this image of the lorry being recovered shortly after 8.30am.

Modern facilities at new-look pavilion

WORK on the new long-awaited Thame Cricket Club pavilion will start this month.

The current pavilion, in Church Meadow, will be demolished and replaced by a new "fit for purpose" building with modern facilities.

Chairman Matt Swain said he was "delighted" to announce work would start on site on Monday, January 15.

He said: "The first part of the project will be to erect the new building which lies in front of the existing pavilion footprint.

"This will enable us to use the existing pavilion during the 2018 playing season. Toward the end of the season the existing building will be knocked

down to form the new nets and car park area. All work is scheduled to be completed by the end of October."

He said the main contractor was Sports Clubhouses Ltd, who had worked "closely" with the club and Thame Town Council to get the project off the ground.

The new two-storey clubhouse will have a kitchen, bar and function room on both floors, storage rooms, an office, changing rooms and a viewing terrace.

The footprint of the building would be slightly bigger than the current one and there will be 45 car parking spaces and 20 cycle spaces.

Plans for the new pavilion were approved in 2016.

Advertorial

A moment with Nomsa Clara Mncube, Founder of Hope Spring Introduction Agency

Matchmaking in some cultures, both past and present is largely a professional endeavour and some cultures think of it as an essential one. In the past, matchmaking began as an informal means to connect potential mates based on factors such as cultural or social standing.

Today its now all changed thanks to technology and a more sophisticated approach. In the present, the advent of technology has forever changed the landscaped and effectiveness of this means of meeting a significant other. These digital dating systems have given rise to the professional matchmaker and is a major advancement in the profession. Enter the world of cultural matchmaking with HSEIA Hope spring eternal introduction agency is the only exclusive traditional matchmaking agency in Henley-On-Thames, offering a discreet and entirely exclusive to clients of affluence. Dan Mason had an opportunity to chat with Nomsa Clara the founder of Hope Spring and get some insight into her firm, vision, its unique positioning and what Hope Spring offers to its global, affluent clients.

What inspire you to start a traditional Matchmaking service?

Coming from a well cultured family with a background of Psychology, my inspiration came from my friends and family who were successful, affluent, intelligent and attractive but single and often had difficulties meeting the right type person. My entrepreneurial drive was born in 2012 when I discovered that no other company was providing a truly bespoke and exclusive matchmaking service. After seeing the gap in the market, I went to find the exclusive match-making service.

What is the origin of the Hope Spring Eternal introduction Agency

The name Hope spring came about, after I realised there's still Hope out there for those who have given up dating. They are still good people out there, but they are hard to find. There's everyone for everyone out there. I also named the company after my oldest daughter. The combination of your background as a Psychologist paired with technology is an idyllic match. How

did your background inform how you structured your matchmaking process.

HSEIA has exceptional team of fully qualified team and experienced professional who can offer support and advice in all aspects of our members' lives. We have professional who are involved in recruiting and match making process- each of our member has a personal psychologist/ matchmaker and we will spend a great deal of time together. Our matchmakers interview members and generally get to know him/ her very well: Understanding how a person lives their life, the previous experience that this person has had; the attitude, values, and principles to which this person subscribe; what is that they are seeking from a relationship etc.

This enable us to deliver a personalised and professional matchmaking service, providing regular contact with our members. We consult with them about matches and dates, offering advice and guidance, whilst at the same time allowing the relationship



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Banbury pair face terrorism charges

A MAN and woman from Banbury are among a group of six people who have been charged with belonging to banned far-right terror group National Action.

Adam Thomas, 21, and Claudia Patatas, 28, both of Waltham Gardens in Banbury, appeared at Westminster Magistrates' Court on Tuesday.

West Midlands Police have charged six people with being "concerned in the commission, preparation and instigation of acts of terrorism".

The arrests took place on January 3 after an investigation by the force.

Those charged with Thomas and Patatas are Nathan Pryke, 26, of Dartford Road, March, Cambridge; Darren Fletcher, 28, of Kitchen Lane, Wednesfield, Wolverhampton; Daniel Bogunovic, 26, of Crown Hills Rise, Leicester and Joel Wilmore, 24, of Bramhall Moor Lane, Hazel Grove, Stockport.

Thomas is also charged with possessing information likely to be useful to a person committing or preparing an act of terrorism.

Fletcher is also charged with five counts of breaching an anti-social behaviour order.

A string of counter-terrorism units were involved in the operation from the West Midlands, north west, south east and east of England.

National Action became the first British neo-Nazi group to be banned after Home Secretary Amber Rudd said it was promoting violence and acts of terrorism.

Union calls for support for anti-Trump protest

By George Welch

A TRADE union is hoping people turn out in force to protest at United States President Donald Trump's anticipated visit to the UK next month.

Unite has said it will hold a rally outside Oxford train station on February 24, two days before President Trump is expected to open the new US embassy in London.

The group said it hopes hundreds of people will join in at 13 protests around the south east.

In a statement the union said: "Donald Trump has proven to be a truly divisive President. He promotes policies that are racist, Islamophobic and sexist."

"South East Unite promotes fairness, dignity and respect. We proudly work to build stronger communities and help empower people to organise and improve our lives collectively."

"We actively encourage inclusion, diversity, and equality. Together we are the polar opposite to Trumpism."

Prime Minister Theresa May confirmed President Trump would make the trip to the UK on the BBC's Andrew Marr Show on Sunday, but



it is unlikely to be a full state visit, meaning he probably won't meet the Queen. President Trump's visit is due to take place on February 26 and 27.

Unite added: "We aim to mobilise hundreds of people to send a clear message to Donald Trump and the UK Government - there is no place for politics of greed and hate in our country."

Protests across the region will take place between midday and 1.30pm. Leaflets and placards will be in evidence on the day.

In 2016, Oxford University researcher Dr Kevin Dutton ranked then-US presidential hopeful Mr Trump above Adolf Hitler in a study

of psychopathic traits in leaders.

He worked with political correspondents and official biographers for the research that analysed traits such as fearlessness, cold-heartedness and self-centred impulsivity.

President Trump claimed he was a 'very stable genius' on Saturday after a critical biography questioning his fitness for office was released.

The book, Fire and Fury: Inside the Trump White House by American journalist Michael Wolff, was published on Friday.

The new £750million US embassy will open to the public on January 16 in Nine Elms before President Trump officially opens it next month.

InBrief

Radiohead deny suing

OXFORD band Radiohead have denied suing Lana Del Rey over claims that the American pop star copied their breakthrough hit Creep on the closing track Get Free on last year's Grammy Award-winning album Lust for Life.

The band's publishers have disputed her claims saying no legal action has been filed by them.

They are however seeking credit on the song.

The 32-year-old singer from New York took to social media over the weekend to tell fans "it's true about the lawsuit".

Bridge repair plan

PLANS to repair a pedestrian bridge over the River Ock might soon be under way after a spate of vandalism.

In November the wooden bridge leading from St Helen's Court into the Ock Valley Walk had to be closed following several incidents that led to the bridge becoming unsafe.

Since the closure, Abingdon Town Council has set aside funds to replace the bridge with a more robust construction to ensure it is safe for public use.

A spokesperson said: "[We] are currently consulting with The Environment Agency about whether their plans for flood alleviation would affect the construction of the new bridge."

Updates will follow on Abingdon Town Council website.

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£6.8m school in need of pupils to open its doors

By Samantha McGregor

A NEW £6.8million school is urging parents to register for a place so it can open its doors this year.

Gagle Brook School was built at Elmsbrook, the first phase of the North West Bicester eco settlement, in 2016 and was due to open that year but was delayed until 2017.

It was postponed again due to low registration numbers.

Now it's in a race against time to get enough students signed up by this month's deadline.

Operator the White Horse Federation plans to open the school in September, but said it was dependent on it "receiving sufficient first choice primary school applications by this month's deadline of 15 January".

More than 80 families had a chance to look around the new eco school just before Christmas as part of an open day to show potential pupils behind the scenes of the school.

In honour of the school's logo, a dragonfly collage was also created by everyone who attended the day.

Gagle Brook's principal Alan Derry said: "We received wonderful feedback from everyone who attended our open day, with people being impressed by the feel and finish of the school as



Gagle Brook headteacher Alan Derry said they have received great feedback after the open day

well as the energy and effort that was put in to provide the children with engaging and educational activities.

"However, our deadline is fast approaching, and our future now lies with parents showing their support for Gagle Brook by putting us down as their first choice.

"We're very keen to open Gagle Brook this September.

"As parents saw at the open day, we're ready to welcome our first classes and provide a top quality,

environmentally conscious education – but we need parents to use their primary school application wisely to help us make this happen."

A consultation involving residents, councillors and eco town developer A2Dominion decided to name the school after Gagle Brook which runs across the eco town sites.

The first residents moved to Elmsbrook in 2016.

For more information go to gaglebrook.org.uk

InBrief

BAFTA nominee

OXFORD actress Florence Pugh is in the running for a BAFTA Rising Star award.

The former Cokethorpe School, Wychwood School and St Edward's School student is one of five nominations.

Miss Pugh, 22, was praised for her debut in *The Falling* in 2014 as well as 2016's *Lady Macbeth*, which won her the Evening Standard's breakthrough of the year award.

She is up against fellow Brits Daniel Kaluuya (*Get Out*) and Josh O'Connor (*Peaky Blinders*, *The Durrells*) and two American actors.

The winner will be announced at this year's BAFTA's on February 18.

Abbey applications

BANDS can apply for a chance to perform in front of thousands of people at Abingdon's most popular annual event.

Musicians are invited to apply to join the line-up at Music at the Park at the Abbey Grounds on June 2 which regularly attracts around 3,500 fans.

To be considered, bands need to send a short resume including the band name and details of members, details of gigs in the last 12 months, and a sample set list for a 45-minute performance.

Applications to be part of this event must be made by 5pm on February 14 and sent to louise.brown@abingdon.gov.uk.

Tools returned

MORE than 300 people were reunited with £20,000 worth of stolen power tools recovered by the police.

Victims of theft across South Oxfordshire and the Vale visited Abingdon police station over the weekend to take back what is rightfully theirs and receive crime prevention advice.

The event was held after a police operation in December.

As part of the event attendees were issued with crime prevention packs including UV markers and were able to speak to a member of the police team for a case update.

Sergeant Lewis Boyce from the Vale problem solving team said: "We are delighted to be able to return [the] stolen property to its owners.

"Further work is ongoing to reunite more of the recovered stolen property."

Wanted men found

POLICE have arrested two wanted men in connection with a string of burglaries and car thefts that occurred on the same day in Oxford last year.

Lewis Felton, 27, and Kane Jones, 21, are in custody in connection with three burglaries that took place between 2.10am and 2.45am in the Marston area in November.

They were arrested in Headington, Oxford, on Tuesday morning following a police appeal to find the two men.



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News

Thieves steal cigarettes in Co-op robbery

THIEVES broke into an Oxford Co-op and raided the cigarette cabinet in the early hours.

The two men smashed the glass panel at the entrance of the Co-op in London Road, Headington, before making off with the stolen loot at around 4.15am on Wednesday last week.

Both offenders disguised their faces with scarves and were also wearing gloves during the robbery.

The shop was closed at the time of the burglary and no one was injured.

Investigating officer Detective Constable Gareth Steward said: "Detectives are investigating the burglary and I would like to speak to anyone who saw anything in the area at the time which may assist our investigation."

"It is believed a motor vehicle was used to get to and from the scene."

"I would like to speak to anyone who saw any vehicles which looked out of place or were being driven erratically in the area at the time of this incident."

Contact Thames Valley Police with any information by calling 101 and quoting 43180001863, or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

>> Got a story? Contact the newsdesk on 01235 516919

Sounds and smells of classics to fill streets

By Samantha McGregor

FINAL preparations are being made to welcome the iconic Monte Carlo Rally to the streets of Banbury.

The north Oxfordshire town is hosting a passage control point for the famous Rallye Monte Carlo Historique and Classique.

This event takes place on Thursday, February 1, when Bridge Street and Market Place will be filled with the sights, sounds and smells of a classic car display.

It has been 50 years since the rally last stopped off in Banbury and organisers hope for a repeat of the 1962 visit when crowds filled Horsefair.

A total of 27 vehicles will be in Banbury – the historique class features vehicles built between 1955 and 1980, while classique class includes vehicles built between 1911 and 1969.

The event is being coordinated by Cherwell District Council, Banbury Town Council and Oxford Motor Club.

Cherwell chairman Cllr Maurice Billington, said: "Motorsport is part of this region's DNA and I can't wait to hear the rumble of those classic cars echo around the town centre."



"We will also be part of their adventure. When the historique rally last came to Banbury the streets were filled with people excited to see some fantastic cars."

"Those cars are now beloved classics and I hope as many of you as possible will head in to town on February 1 to greet the intrepid rally drivers and give them a raucous send off."

Bicester's Blue Diamond Riley

Services which has entered a 1949 MG TC into the classique rally, will be servicing other rally vehicles during the stop in Bridge Street.

Other exhibitors include Pro-Drive, Brackley based BGM, and local classic car enthusiasts.

The event takes place between 10am and 3.30pm and rally vehicles will start leaving the town from 1.30pm at one-minute intervals.

Flight Sergeant Bugsy Felstead, Flying Officer Harry Walker and Corporal Jack Cullip with some of the kits collected



MILITARY personnel from RAF Brize Norton have donated more than 130 football shirts to underprivileged children in some of the poorest countries in West Africa.

The Joint Air Delivery Test and Evaluation Unit, based at RAF Brize Norton, handed over the shirts to charity KitAid on Thursday after kicking off their campaign with a 6-a-side Football Tournament in October last year.

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Kitting out children in Africa

Lives changed thanks to new homeless cafe

By Eva Astreinidou

A CHARITY offering a warm and comforting space for people to stay off the streets is taking steps to ensure there are enough funds to support rough sleepers.

Homes4All is celebrating the opening of a café and gathering space at Cornmarket Street in Oxford, and say it has changed people's lives already.

The charity's founder Deborah Robson-Grey said people have been "lining up" every morning to make use of the space and relax during the cold winter days.

She said: "It has been amazing. We are busy and bustling all day, people are really enjoying it. It is absolutely a success and the homeless community itself is very engaged and tell us that it has already changed their lives."

She said people have been generously donating food and clothing items, while people who are homeless come in to have a chat and relax on the sofas.

One of the service users, who has been homeless for four years, will even be treated to a haircut this week, thanks to Oxford-based charity Homeless Project.

The charity will run the service at

A recent event raised more than £500 towards JumpStart funds



the old Lush premises until the lease runs out at the end of January.

In the meantime, the charity and its supporters are raising money to make sure plans to turn a double decker bus into a sleeping space for the homeless come to fruition.

Last month, the charity bid for £20,000 of funding for the JumpStart bus proposals but was turned down by Oxford city councillors who said it

did not have the funds for the project.

Homes4All has nevertheless decided to push ahead with its plans by spreading the word and organising fundraisers, with a running total of more than £1,700 so far.

The charity is also planning to host a fundraising auction on January 27.

To make a donation visit crowdfunder.co.uk/jumpstart-bus.

KitAid gives a new home to once loved football kits by distributing them to those most in need of clothing donations in some of the poorest parts of the world.

Personnel at JADTEU and Carterton Town FC have all donated kits to the charity's collection.

Flying Officer Harry Walker said: "I have been amazed at the level of generosity of my colleagues at JADTEU who have sourced kits,

boots and shin pads from not only their own homes, but from friends and family as well."

John Maxwell, the regional coordinator for KitAid, said: "I am extremely grateful for the help from RAF Brize Norton.

"I personally take the kit to West Africa and it is very much appreciated; I still see the same kits being worn by children from my very first donation delivery over seven years ago."

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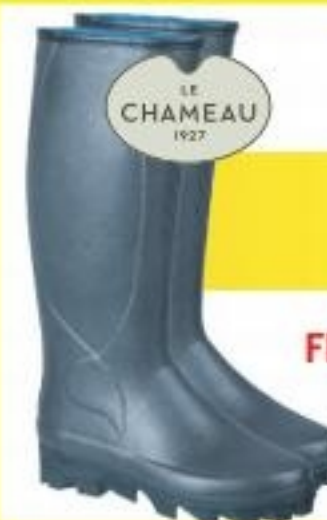
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Market marks success with its busiest sale

A VILLAGE market celebrated its anniversary in style with the "biggest and the busiest" sale so far.

The Piddington Pantry, a market and coffee shop based at the village hall, was set up five years ago after the demise of the village pub.

It meant the village hall was the only village amenity and the idea was born to create a shop and café where residents could meet, socialise and buy small items rather than having to drive into Bicester or Thame.

One of the organisers, Francesca Darby, said: "We feel delighted and proud that a small rural community that had lost most of its amenities has managed to create and sustain such a successful initiative in tough times."

"But we know that The Pantry exists only because people want to come along and be part of it."

"We're never complacent about our success, and work hard to make sure that each market is the best it can possibly be."

On sale day stalls included crafts and handmade gifts, local produce including Piddington Village Apple Juice, Piddington Cider and Piddington Chutney, all



The Pantry team, back from left, Margaret Pearce, Chris Weavers, Andrew Coleman and Ken Howard and front from left, Francesca Darby, Hazel Coleman and Karen Joy. Picture: Samantha Phillips

made from village apples gathered at the Apple Days held in the village annually.

Since the first market in December 2012, The Pantry has

raised more than £10,000 for Piddington projects.

This year, The Pantry will hold markets on March 24, September 1 and December 1.

Outlook good for business

A SURVEY of businesses across Oxfordshire has revealed a 'high level of optimism' in the county's 'world-leading' economy.

Nearly 300 firms took part in the Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership (OxLEP) survey with 79 per cent saying their business had 'good growth prospects'.

It also found that 68 per cent planned to hire staff in the next 12 months while 77 per cent agreed the county has "a vibrant, sustainable, inclusive and world-leading economy driven by innovation, enterprise and research excellence".

Oxford is in the top two cities for growth and the economy, according to recent research from auditors PwC

and law firm Irwin Mitchell.

OxLEP chief executive Nigel Tipple said the recent reports 'reaffirm' Oxfordshire's position as a world-leading economic power. This, he said, demonstrates 'dynamic growth'.

He said: "It is hugely encouraging to see such a high level of optimism among our business leaders, with many of them expecting to expand their operations and hire new staff over the next year."

OxLEP will host a Q&A event for business leaders with guest speakers in Bicester later this month at the headquarters of baking company British Bakels in Granville Way on January 22.

To sign up visit oxfordshirelep.com

Concert to raise cash for homeless

TWO groups of Oxfordshire musicians are aiming to beat the post-Christmas blues with a concert to help a homeless charity.

The cheerful charity concert is being organised by Cllr Jeannette Matelot and will raise money for Homeless Oxfordshire, a charity which helps people to find accommodation and supports their welfare.

Taking place at Cornerstone in Didcot, the first half of the evening will be a performance by the Oxfordshire County Youth Big Band, which, formed 40 years ago, boasts three progressive big bands and three smaller jazz groups.

Didcot Community Gospel Choir, which has up to 100 members and is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year, will perform in the second half.

Cllr Matelot, chair of South Oxfordshire District Council, has already raised more than £700 for Homeless Oxfordshire.

She said: "I hope people are able to come along to enjoy and help raise money for those most in need of support and accommodation during the cold winter months."

The concert starts at 7.30pm on January 20 and tickets are available from 01235 515444 or at cornerstone-arts.org. £15 per person, £13 concs.

Vicar 'spiritually abused' boy, 15, in prayer sessions

By Eva Astreinidou

A VICAR has been convicted of spiritual abuse of a teenage boy during private prayer sessions in the boy's bedroom.

The Reverend Timothy Davis of Christ Church, Abingdon, faced a tribunal after moving in with the boy's family for six months in 2013.

The Church of England vicar was accused of causing the teenager to be 'scared', trying to influence the boy and his

relationship with his girlfriend, the panel heard.

During the prayer sessions in the boy's bedroom the tribunal heard how they laid hands on each other's head, shoulders, chest and back.

The Bishop's Disciplinary Tribunal ruled there was no 'sexual touching' and said it would fix a penalty in due course.

Mr Davis lived with the family, who were members of his congregation. He became a mentor to the 15-year-old boy in 2011.

In its judgement, the tribunal said the teenager was "scared" by what Mr Davis was doing.

It said the vicar's "domination" of the boy amounted to "misconduct which was unbecoming and inappropriate" and caused the boy to be "deprived of his freedom of choice".

Mr Davis, who is in his 50s, was suspended from his position in 2016. A psychiatrist told the tribunal he had been diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder in September 2016.

Film students' bid to produce WWII thriller

OXFORD students have kickstarted a campaign to raise funds to complete work on a new feature film set in 1940s occupied France.

Benjamin Eeley, a digital film production student at SAE Oxford, is planning to shoot his movie early this summer but needs to raise the minimum £10,000 to bring *Die Jagd* (The Hunt, in German) to life.

Set during the Nazi occupation of France, the film will follow the harrowing story of a group of allied soldiers held captive and subjected to a cruel and sadistic game led by the commanding officer.

Benjamin said: "The film at this point is now a pure passion project, I'm starting to get lots of people



Benjamin Eeley has already shot the opening scenes for the film

offering their time and skills to the project free of charge, just to see it made.

"We are looking to shoot in the

early summer of 2018 and have a rough version completed for August, in time for my dissertation hand in, as this will be my dissertation piece."

Benjamin will write, direct and shoot the film himself, with fellow students filling the remaining crew roles such as producer, editor and camera operator.

A Kickstarter campaign is due to go live in February to raise the minimum needed for the project, but Benjamin hopes to raise £20,000 to get use of quality sets, equipment and to hire and record a full orchestra.

Filming will take place in the Midlands, with the coastal scenes likely to be shot in Cornwall.

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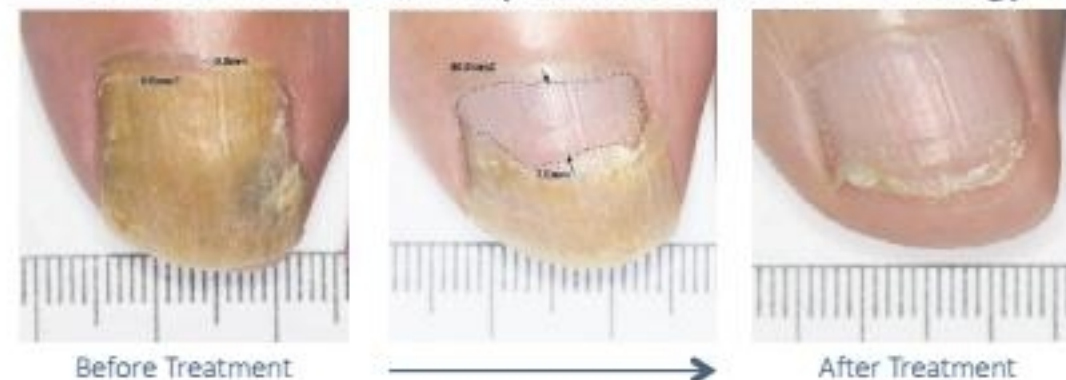
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Choose a charity for us to support

By George Welch

HERE at the Oxfordshire Guardian and The Oxford Paper we are calling on our readers and partners to nominate inspiring charities to help us choose our Charity of the Year for 2018.

Oxfordshire has no shortage of admirable good causes and we are welcoming nominations until January 31, when we will then decide which charity we should back for the year.

Choices can be based on anything; from personal experiences or friends' experiences, to liking the sound of the work they do or relevance to current issues across the county.

We are looking to publicise the work of a charity through the production of engaging material for our readers to be featured on at least a monthly basis.

So if you know of a charity that deserves greater recognition please do get in touch.

Group editor Karen Neville said: "There are so many worthy charities around the county doing so much good work often with very little publicity or recognition, what we are aiming to do is give them a helping hand by promoting their work in the community."

"Most people have a cause that is dear to their heart for a particular

reason and we want to hear about it, so please do get in touch."

Didcot-based fundraising group Play2Give was our Charity of the Year for 2017 and, together, we helped raise nearly £20,000 – almost double founder Andy Baker's £10,000 target for the group's 10th anniversary.

Karen added: "Play2Give is a terrific example of the work that can be done to help people and we hope this year's charity can go on to achieve the success they have experienced."

Andy, 29, said: "The partnership with this paper was for us hugely beneficial. When we set out with this paper's help with our £10k in 10 appeal we never dreamt we would raise £19,630 by the end of the year so the partnership proved immensely beneficial."

"We thank the staff who also threw themselves into raising funds such as reporter George with a half marathon and the production manager's (Peter Herring) skydive."

"2017 was the most successful year for Play2Give ever, and we think part of that was thanks to the paper for helping make our milestone year extra special."

To nominate a charity, email us at news@oxfordshireguardian.co.uk, putting Charity 2018 in the subject line.



Finders Keepers staff help out in the Sobell House garden – the agent's property owners have donated a day's rent

Property owners £6k boost for hospice

MORE than £6,000 was raised for an Oxford hospice through donations of a day's rent from property owners.

Letting agent Finders Keepers asked the owners of properties it manages on their behalf to give the cash to its charity of the year.

After contacting landlords in November last year, the cash for Sobell House Hospice was raised within six weeks.

Finders Keepers managing director Dan Channer thought up the idea.

He said: "The idea felt really straightforward: if each landlord

donated a day's rent to support our team's activities we could raise thousands."

"We asked all of our owners whether they would like to opt-in to the campaign and were thrilled with the response."

"The amount we've raised has exceeded our expectations so we are absolutely delighted."

Some owners who had more than one property insisted the donation came from the rent that would deliver the largest financial boost.

Mr Channer added that Sobell

House, located at the Churchill Hospital, provides an "invaluable" service to the community.

Finders Keepers, which has branches in Banbury, Witney, Bicester, Abingdon and four in Oxford, choose a charity of the year every two years.

This is the second time Sobell House, which provides specialist palliative care and support to around 3,000 adult patients and their families each year, has been chosen.

Tim Wraith, corporate partnership manager at the hospice, said staff were "overwhelmed" by the support.

Sad goodbye for Citizens Advice boss

THE new head of Witney's Citizens Advice West Oxfordshire thanked the outgoing chief officer for her "brilliant work" after 21 years with the charity.

Barbara Shaw joined the organisation based at The Old Printhouse in Witney as a volunteer and was chief officer for 15 years prior to her retirement last year.

Barbara, who described working for the organisation as "a real honour", said: "It will be sad to say goodbye to such a brilliant and passionate team, which I'm sure will continue to deliver a much-needed service to the people of west Oxfordshire."

New head of the service Teresa Archer led staff and volunteers at a team party last month in thanking the departing boss for her hard work supporting the communities of west Oxfordshire.

She said: "Working with Barbara in the past few years has been fantastic, her commitment to the organisation has meant we are able to consistently support our communities in west Oxfordshire and I look forward to taking her brilliant work forward."

Nick Green, chair of the trustee board, said: "Her leadership has helped ensure CAWO is able to effectively help our local communities, and those people who need our services most."

More than 4,700 residents in the area received support from Citizens Advice in the last financial year on issues such as employment, consumer, housing, education, debt and welfare.

Barbara will remain a trustee with the organisation and continue to be involved in Citizens Advice work nationally.



Barbara Shaw, left, is handing over the reins to Teresa Archer

Helping new mums relax and get in shape

FITNESS classes launching in Witney and Chipping Norton next week could help new mums to kick the baby blues.

Mums in need of a little de-stressing can sign up for new postnatal fitness classes and won't need to bend over backwards to find childcare as babies and toddlers are especially welcome.

OneFitMama instructor and mum-of-two Carlene Whitehead, 31, whose background is in

marketing and science, wanted to help new mums who were going through a tough time after finding the exercise classes helped with her own postnatal depression.

She said: "I'm a military wife so I don't really have that many friends around anyway, but just doing the exercises and getting out and doing something really helped me not feel so lonely."

Carlene added that the 45 minute sessions are designed for women who have had issues after

childbirth, such as C-sections or pelvic floor issues, but can be tailored for any mum's needs.

"We try to do classes that are really friendly and mums can bring their babies and toddlers with them so they don't need to worry," she said.

Mother and baby/toddler classes will take place at Ceewood Hall, Witney on Tuesdays and Salford Village Hall, Chipping Norton on Thursdays, with further details online at onefitmama.co.uk.



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Lab searches for unexploded bombs

By Owen Hughes

AN Oxfordshire lab has begun tracking down unexploded wartime bombs in the North Sea to ease future renewable energy projects.

Engineers at HR Wallingford are working with specialists from the University of Rostock in Germany to use their Fast Flow Facility at Howbery Business Park to gather data that could help predict the movement of unexploded ordnance (UXO) drifting in the ocean north of the UK.

Not knowing the precise locations of the lost wartime devices presents a hazard to renewable energy projects during the laying of cables to bring offshore wind energy to the shore.

The facility in Wallingford is one of the largest marine test facilities in

the world at 75 metres long and holds a million litres of water.

Professor Richard Whitehouse, chief technical director, said: "Our Fast Flow Facility provides a controlled environment in which to evaluate the effects of currents on full-sized UXO, and so provide the University of Rostock with validated data across a range of flow conditions, burial depths and mobilisation speeds."

The University of Rostock provided a model of a 1:1 scale 250lb Second World War bomb and other typical unexploded ordnance at 1:2 scale for testing at the facility.

Electricity supplier TenneT has provided funding for the investigation, with Dr Anja Drews adding that the research will improve "safety by quantifying, and thereby minimising, the risk to people and equipment".



1:1 scale model of a Second World War bomb being tested at Howbery Business Park by HR Wallingford for the University of Rostock and electricity supplier, TenneT

InBrief

GWP youth project

A PUBLIC meeting will be held ahead of an Easter youth project at Great Western Park in Didcot.

The Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association is on the lookout for people to help youngsters at the west Didcot housing development.

Those interested should be able to spare an hour at least once a month.

The meeting will be held at The Pavilion at Boundary Park on Monday, January 29 at 7pm.

Contact oxfordshire@boys-brigade.org.uk for more.

Tech 'part of life'

THE 'common' perception that technology is taking over children's lives and forcing out other activities may be untrue, according to Oxford University research.

Despite spending increasing amounts of time on screen-based devices, much like adults, children adapt their behaviours to include devices and do all the things that they would do anyway, the study released last month revealed.

According to researcher Killian Mullan, children integrate tech into daily activities, such as homework and playing with friends.

She said: "The time children spend using digital devices sounds huge. But when you break it down, you can see how children have embedded tech in their daily activities."

Have you got an Ali McBeagle or a Geoffrey Boycat at home?

BELLE, Rocky and Tigger were among the most popular pet names of 2017, according to an Oxfordshire based pet charity.

Charlie wasn't prepared to roll over as it remained top of the list for male cats and leapt ahead of Max to take the lead as the most popular name for dogs, while Bella sat and stayed at the top of the list for female dog names.

It was all change this year for the top girl cat names as Luna strayed all the way from seventh to eclipse

Poppy at the top.

Blue Cross put the top 20 lists together after looking at all the names of pets that have been helped by the charity from its rehoming centres to its veterinary hospitals.

There were no beasts in the way for Belle as the popular Disney princess's name crept into the top 20 dog names for the first time after the box office success of last year's fantasy remake.

The Burford-based charity also announced that Huggs (female dogs),

Tatty (male dogs), Toe (female cats) and Geoffrey Boycat (male cats) were the unique pet names to cross their path in the past 12 months.

Other more unusual names featured were Ali McBeagle, Mr Bumblebee, Hungry Hippo, Spaghetti, Hokey Cokey and Earl Gray.

Blue Cross said it hopes the list will provide inspiration for "a new addition to your family in 2018" and suggested visiting its website to find pets seeking a new home at bluecross.org.uk.



What would you call a pet rehomed from Blue Cross?

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Hearing aids can do more than improve your hearing.

Following a survey carried out in 2015 by Anovum (a market research company) on 1325 hearing impaired people (605 hearing aid wearers and 720 not wearing hearing aids). The survey reports that hearing aids not only improve capabilities of hearing well but also improved the general health of hearing aid wearers compared to hearing impaired people who do not wear a hearing aid. Hearing aid users are less likely to think they have the symptoms of dementia, feel less physically and mentally exhausted, sleep better and are less likely to suffer from depression.

The survey confirms what some Audiologists have suspected for some time, that hearing aids are not only good for correcting hearing loss but in fact contribute to better and more active lives, better quality of life, and better overall health.

For the hearing impaired workers who wear a hearing aid it is reported that their hearing aids are useful for their job and that the hearing aids also increase the chance of them getting promoted, being in the right job and getting more salary compared to those hearing impaired people who have not obtained hearing aids.

The full report can be found at EuroTrak UK 2015 - ehima

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Get ready for Winter

Now's the perfect time to replace your garden fence once and for all. Anna Ryder Richardson - Designer and Television Presenter - takes a closer look at Colourfence, the revolutionary low-maintenance system.

It's been ten years since I regularly graced TV screens helping transform people's living spaces with MDF and stripped floorboards. Recently it's been more "celebrity muck out" than "celebrity make-over" as I took up the challenge of owning my own Wildlife Zoo in Tenby. In this time I've learnt quite a lot about fences and having researched the various options for my own benefit I thought I would share my knowledge with a wider audience.

The latest design processes

mean there is now a tremendous array of fencing products for you to choose from, constructed from a variety of materials. Each has its own attributes, and ultimately it can often come down to a matter of personal preference. For me, there was one unique system that stood out as providing the best balance between price and functionality which eradicates fencing problems for good. Or for at least 25 years. Colourfence. For quality, value, longevity, aesthetic design, this fencing system ticks all the boxes. Fencing made for

the 21st century that will transform the look of your garden which is supplied and fitted by a company whose customer service is as good as the product.

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To find out how the experts from Colourfence might help you, I suggest you call **01865 582 171** and speak to their team.

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For many Colourfence is perhaps the ultimate choice. For the last 15 years it's been widely used across the UK and has steadily gained a reputation for its quality. By using the highest specification Colorbond steel in the fence structure itself, complemented by the highest level of customer service from accredited Franchisees, Colourfence is now regarded by many as the premier fencing solution in the market. Immune to the rot and resistant to the weather that so quickly effects wooden fences, Colourfence has none of the drawbacks of wood - plenty of additional benefits and what's more it's better value!

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Gardeners' Questions

Q Wooden fence panels just don't seem to last - is there a storm resistant alternative?

A The Colourfence system has been tested under cyclonic conditions to withstand storms with wind gusts up to 130mph. Unlike your wooden fence - once professionally installed - Colourfence really will stay up!

Q No matter what I treat my wooden fence with - nothing seems to prevent it rotting or looking shabby for very long.

A Treating your fence is a thankless and expensive task. It's also a losing battle. Wood simply wants to rot. Colourfence offers a low-maintenance alternative where by an occasional wash down will keep it looking great for up to 25 years! **GUARANTEED!**



THIS WEEK'S JOB

*Terms and conditions apply - full details available on request

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back to enjoying your rejuvenated garden. Pricing is just as straightforward and equally attractive. Starting costs are in line with inferior timber systems but with no annual treatments required, Colourfence saves you time and money each and every year. Their aim is your peace of mind. With a 25 year guarantee† Colourfence speaks for itself and promises a lifetime of hassle-free enjoyment.

For more information and to arrange a FREE no obligation site visit simply call one of their helpful team on 01865 582 171.

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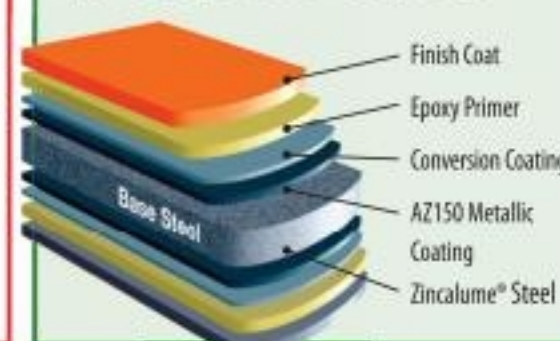
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To reassure customers that our free no obligation site survey and quotation is not a precursor to high pressure sales techniques, all Colourfence Franchisees have signed up to the Colourfence No Pressure Promise. Call or visit our website for details.



Emergency first aid tips for bikers

By George Welch

MORE free sessions educating people on how to provide emergency first-aid for bikers will be provided by Oxfordshire's fire service following an increase in the number of fatalities.

While the number of deaths on Oxfordshire's roads fell from 32 in 2016 to 23 in the last 12 months, the number of motorcyclists killed rose from three to eight – accounting for more than a third of road deaths in 2017.

The service's road safety education team holds regular Biker Down workshops for road users to learn what to do if they are the first person at the scene of an incident – particularly one involving a motorcyclist.

The workshops deliver basic first aid training, including when and how to remove a rider's helmet.

Road safety team leader Andy Ford said: "While it's obviously good that

the overall number of people killed on our roads is reducing, it's a concern to see a rise in the number of biker fatalities.

"Compared with other road users, motorcyclists will always be more vulnerable to serious injury in a road collision or when losing control of their vehicle.

"No matter how long you've been a biker, you're never too good and there are always new things you can learn from further training – both in terms of how you can help at the scene of an incident and how you can be a safer rider."

One of the motorcyclists to die last year was 18-year-old Luke Portsmouth, whose inquest will take place on January 24.

The teenager died after crashing his black Kawasaki ZX series motorcycle into a lamppost on Tythrop Way, near his hometown of Thame in August.

Mr Ford, an experienced



Firefighter Nathan Crockford carries out a demonstration with a colleague at a recent Biker Down workshop

motorcyclist, recently attended a bike safety course run by Thames Valley Police and said he's "certainly benefited from the extra training I have attended".

To register interest in attending a Biker Down workshop and go on a waiting list for notification of the 2018 dates and venues, email bikerdown@oxfordshire.gov.uk

InBrief

Scouts card boost

WANTAGE and Grove Scouts raised £3,600 from their Christmas card post service.

Volunteers collected, sorted and delivered around 11,300 Christmas cards to the community, with the money raised used to improve activities for beaver, cub, scout and explorer sections.

Volunteers also delivered a card to every household on behalf of the Wantage and Grove Church.

Top primary school

A PRIMARY school in Oxfordshire has made it into a list of the country's top schools.

Great Tew Primary School was listed in Tatler's annual State Schools guide among schools that are 'the cream of the country's crop'.

The school site still has 17th-century thatched cottages and is described as 'something out of Hansel and Gretel'.

Tatler said: "The primary is tiny, so there's a lovely family atmosphere, and all ages play happily together. One mother raves about her 'heavenly school run' – some pupils commute on their ponies. At pick-up, children run out of the gates to play on the village green or head to the Sweetpeas café for hot chocolate."

The primary school currently has 98 pupils, a mix of girls and boys aged 4-11.

Helicopter contract will continue supporting vital operations

TWENTY-FIVE jobs essential to the future of RAF Benson have been saved thanks to a renewal of vital helicopter training worth £100million.

Airbus Helicopters will keep the roles there and at its base at Oxford Airport following the decision to continue supporting the RAF Puma 2 fleet.

The contract for this work is worth

an initial £100million and will give technical and logistics support until March 2022 with the option to extend until March 2025.

The contract will provide repair and overhaul services to the helicopters together with training to all Puma technicians as well as engineering managers.

Henley's MP John Howell is

'delighted' about the awarding of the contract.

He said: "We only have to look at the contribution that these aircraft have made to operations around the world: whether deploying in Afghanistan in support of Operation Tora or supporting vital aid in the Caribbean following the recent hurricane disasters, the Pumas have shown

[that] they make an ideal platform to support special forces."

Ian Morris, head of UK defence programmes at Airbus Helicopters, said: "This re-affirms the confidence that the MoD has in the aircraft and in Airbus [which] will allow the Puma to continue to support our forces on operations in very demanding conditions."

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Out & About



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From disaster comes comedy



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when it all
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Out About

Raising the roof in new production

By Samantha McGregor

OXFORD Operatic Society is putting the finishing touches to its latest production, *Fiddler on the Roof*.

The musical will be brought to life at the Oxford Playhouse from Monday, January 15, until Saturday, January 20.

Fiddler on the Roof is a highly successful production, making its debut on Broadway in 1964.

It was later made into a successful, Academy-award winning film starring Israeli actor Chaim Topol, known as Topol.

To date *Fiddler on the Roof* has won nine Tony Awards, including best musical, score, book and direction.

In 1972, the show won a special Tony Award for being the longest-running musical in Broadway history.

Set in 1905, the story follows Tevye, a poor Jewish milkman who lives in a small Ukrainian village with his sharp-tongued wife and their strong-minded daughters who wish to marry for love.

But as a rapidly changing world threatens to displace them, is all their squabbling for nothing?

Fiddler on the Roof explores the themes of tradition and religion, and is set against the oppression of czarist Russia.

Taking the iconic lead role of Tevye is Steve Mellin, who will be



From left, Marilyn Moore, Jo Lainchbury, Neela Nee, Saffi Needman, Steve Mellin, Lilly Partridge and Hannah Mullan

joined on stage by his two sons.

Steve said: "Tevye is so multi-faceted it makes the role really interesting to explore."

"He is funny and cheeky, yet quick tempered and harsh, he is traditional and strong, yet open-minded and vulnerable."

This show also features a host of hits including *If I Were a Rich Man*, *Matchmaker* and *Sunrise Sunset*.

Oxford Operatic Society was founded in 1907 and regularly performs in both the Oxford Playhouse and New Theatre.

Previous shows include *Avenue Q*,

Oliver and *Sunset Boulevard*. Their next production, in May/June is *9 to 5 The Musical*.

Tickets for *Fiddler on the Roof* at Oxford Playhouse start at £10 and are available from the ticket office on 01865 305305 or go to oxfordplayhouse.com

On stage

Doing it Frank's way

Direct from Las Vegas, the iconic music of Frank Sinatra is brought to life once again at the Oxford New Theatre by world renowned vocalist Stephen Triffitt on February 3.

Backed by the sound of big band swing, Triffitt is the voice of Frank Sinatra. He starred as the legendary entertainer for three seasons in Las Vegas and played him in the West End production of *The Rat Pack Live*.

For more information or to book view atgtickets.com/oxford

Dry-ing up on stage

Catch Human Story Theatre's production *Dry*, at the Old Fire Station, from tonight until Saturday.

The Wilsons may be middle class and middle aged, but there's nothing middling about their alcohol intake. Can they get it under control before it tears their family apart?

Go to humanstorytheatre.com.

Folk club debut

Folk singer and songwriter Louise Jordan makes her Oxford Folk Club debut tomorrow at 8.30pm.

Fresh from touring with her one woman show *No Petticoats Here* about First World War women, Louise will perform work from the show as well as traditional folk songs.

Tickets £6 on the door at The White House, Abingdon Road, Oxford, or oxfordfolkclub.com

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Comedy from a disaster

THE West End's Olivier Award-winning box office hit *The Play That Goes Wrong* returns to Oxford this month.

The comedy stops off at the Oxford Playhouse from Monday, January 22 until Saturday, January 27, as part of a UK tour.

The play is set around The Cornley Polytechnic Drama Society who are attempting to put on a 1920s' murder mystery.

But everything that can go wrong does, doors stick, floors collapse, props fall from the walls, actors forget their lines, miss cues and one even gets knocked unconscious, all as the accident-prone thespians battle on against all the odds to get to their final curtain call.

The show has won 11 international awards, including the 2015 Olivier Award for Best New Comedy and a 2017 Tony Award for its Broadway transfer.

The Play That Goes Wrong is a highly physical comedy packed with finely-tuned farce and Buster Keaton inspired slapstick delivered with split-second timing.

Directed by Mark Bell and co-written by Mischief Theatre, *The Play That Goes Wrong* is a remarkable rags-to-riches story.

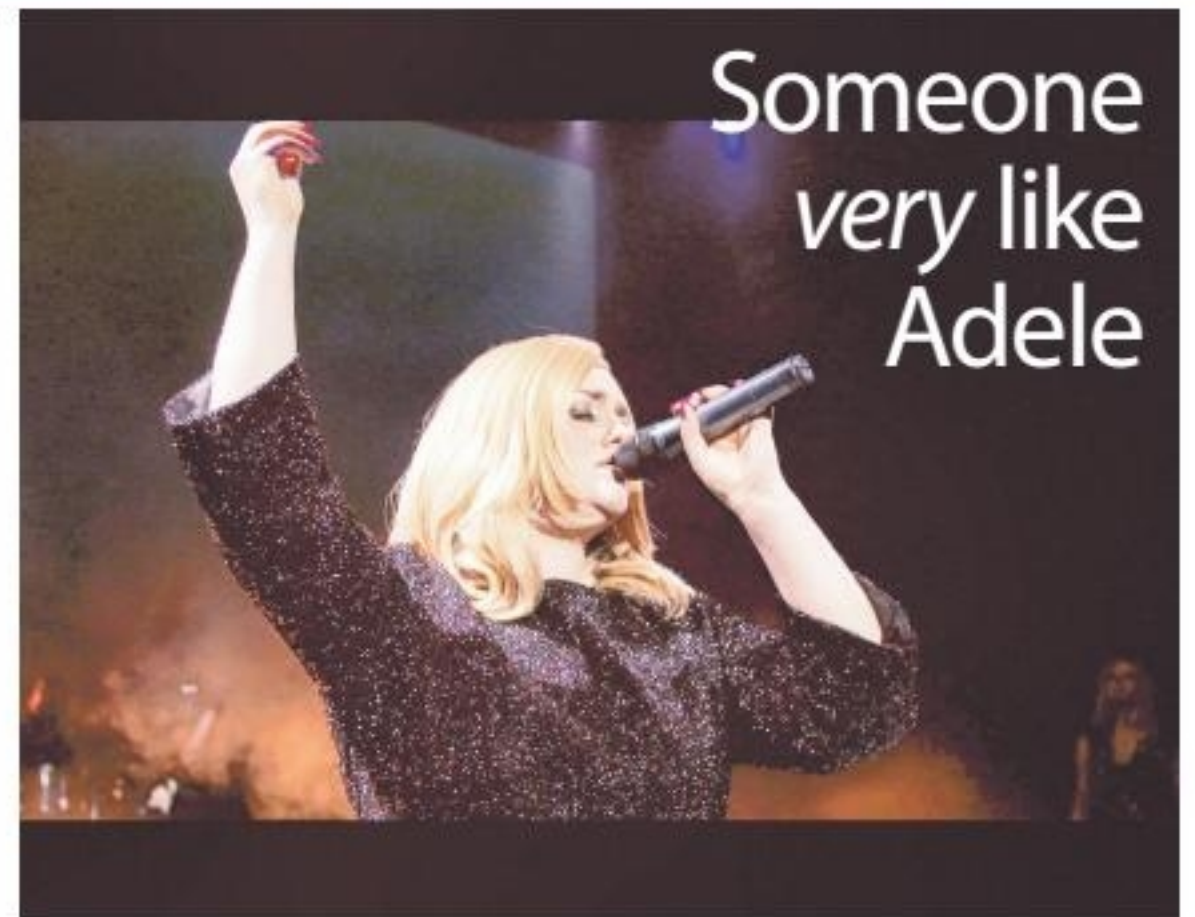
It started its life at a London fringe venue with only four paying audience members at the first performance, and has since played to almost one-



and-a-half million people worldwide. Tickets for *The Play That Goes Wrong* at Oxford Playhouse start at

£10 and are available from the ticket office on 01865 305305 or go to oxfordplayhouse.com.

Someone very like Adele



FORMER X-Factor finalist Katie Markham is set to take to the stage as her idol Adele.

As part of a BBC special, Katie got to perform live with Adele on stage in London and now she has been selected to perform as the lead role in *Someone Like You* – a concert production recreating the magic of Adele's music from the three hit albums 19, 21 and 25.

This new show comes to Oxford's New Theatre on February 10.

It will include the smash hits *Chasing Pavements*, *Make You Feel My Love*, *Set Fire to the Rain*, *Someone Like You*, *Rolling in the Deep*, *Hello* and the multi-million selling *Skyfall*, as well as featuring a selection of songs by some of the legends that

inspired Adele.

Katie said: "Adele said she watched my audition and loved it. Being involved in the BBC show was an incredible experience."

"I never thought I would get to meet Adele, let alone sing with her and take part in one of the biggest shows of her career."

"I absolutely love Adele – how she flips her voice and the raw emotion in her songs."

"If there are any songs written for me to sing, it's her music. I can't wait to bring the same depth and emotion to the *Someone Like You* show."

Tickets are available from the New Theatre box office on George Street, by calling 0844 871 3020 or view atgtickets.com/oxford



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Out About

You'll want a pizza this place!

OXFORD'S exciting new retail centre Westgate has been pulling in the crowds not just with its shops but also with its variety of restaurants.

One which has certainly proved a popular place to eat in the few weeks it has been open is Pizza Pilgrims.

The restaurant is the first outside London for brothers Thom and James Elliot and combines classic Italian flavours with their signature colourful interiors.

Decked out in Pizza Pilgrims style of green and white checked tablecloths, a foosball table and classic arcade games there is also a parmesan photo booth and a Piaggio Ape van.

On to the main course - the food itself and the day we stopped by for lunch it was proving to be a very popular spot indeed.

The quirky interior reflects the lively busy atmosphere in which several dozen diners were eagerly tucking in.

We opted for two of our favourites - Salami and the Calzone Ripieno.

Renowned for their simple, high quality and traditional Neapolitan pizzas, all are made with authentic ingredients from Italy and cooked in pizza ovens running at 460C and cooked to perfection.

The Salami pizza is the best choice for meat lovers. Using authentic Neapolitan black pepper salami - this gives a real meat hit and boasted a delicious and light



high crust. The mozzarella was delightfully stringy and the salami gave enough of a punch without knocking you out.

The calzone is ever so slightly different from others you may have had. It is a still a folded pizza (the pizza equivalent of a Cornish pasty if you will) stuffed with glorious things like ricotta and salami - but it is also topped with Fior di Latte cow's milk mozzarella and tomato sauce.

This is billed as the hungry person's choice and having eaten it I think we'd agree with that - packed full of ingredients, there were some surprising flavours that we really

enjoyed and 'forced' our way through to the end.

We chose a bottle of the house white which was light and fruity and a good accompaniment to the pizzas.

When in Rome as they say... so it was Tiramisu for dessert which was deliciously opulent, oozing cream and with a rich coffee and chocolate flavour.

Friendly helpful staff were a great finishing touch to this unique eating experience which we and no doubt many others will certainly be saying 'ciao bella' to again!

Karen Neville



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Established over thirteen years ago we have been going from strength to strength retailing touring vans built by the UK's finest manufacturers.

With a forecourt offering a selection of over 100 new season and pre-owned caravans we have something for everyone.

20% off all awnings and furniture purchased during our Blue Cross Sale.

Never has there been a better time to enjoy ownership of a touring van, however if you're considering a new season 2018 don't hang around too long as some layouts are already seeing limited availability.

With new 5 year PCP deals and 10 year traditional Hire Purchase plans, affordability has never been so flexible.

Our "Blue Cross Sale" has started NOW with a genuine £1000 saving across ALL caravans that we have displayed on the forecourt, new season and pre-owned.

All pre-owned touring vans sold come with a comprehensive warranty and pre delivery inspection.

To compliment the cus-

tomers experience we have just opened a further two internal servicing bays, with NCC and AWS approval for warranty, body shop and servicing.

We have enhanced our storage area providing somewhere to store any caravan brought from us, this makes owning a caravan even more convenient for ease of use servicing etc and at very reasonable prices.

10% off pre-winter checks and caravan valeting during our Blue Cross Sale.

The leisure, parts and accessory shop is undergoing an expansion, offering some great season sales on awnings and furniture. Come and view the latest air awnings by Kampa, Vango and Isabella.

Further enhancements with new customer toilets, sales offices and the re-launch of the Peacock Café. The Peacock Café is open seven days a week offering outstanding home-made cakes, cream teas and a tasty menu, well worth a visit.

10% off all services and booked and completed during our Blue Cross Sale.

Why Do People Caravan?

People start to caravan for lots of different reasons, some people hear from friends who caravan about the variety of types of holidays that they enjoy, beach holidays (home and abroad), forest holidays, attending events balloon festivals, dog shows, country shows, classic car events, xmas markets. People will even venture off to the Cairngorms' up to (and beyond) their boots in snow!

And of course people will use their caravan as a support vehicle (accommodation, refuelling and rest) for activities like running marathons, triathlons, hill walking, skiing, windsurfing even hovercraft racing. Some Caravaners are in the National Trust enjoying our heritage, our great houses and parks, the picturesque and even the simple things like a traditional cream tea.

The great thing is you can get out there to do the things you enjoy.

With a caravan it is easier to enjoy the fresh air and the beauty of the great outdoors, you will have a better appetite with your favourite foods and drinks tasting even better, not to mention the new ones you will try, whether cooking yourself which many people love to or finding fabulous eateries out and about.

With our support caravanning can be easier than you might realise. Visit us and go inside some of the caravans on display. You will be blown away.

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The Peacock Café

The Peacock café is now under new management and has been fully finished and looks amazing. We are open 7 days a week with seating both indoors and outdoors. We serve all day breakfast, light lunches and afternoon tea. We also serve fresh homemade cakes and ice-cream sundaes - all made using quality, locally sourced produce.

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Out&About Competition

WIN tickets to the London Classic Car Show 2018

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The UK's premier classic car show returns to ExCeL London this winter from Thursday 15 to Sunday 18 February where 40,000 classic car enthusiasts are expected to flood through its doors.

Tickets are on sale now from thelondonclassiccarshow.co.uk, with prices starting from just £20.

The London Classic Car Show, now in its fourth year, is the must attend event for all classic car enthusiasts, celebrating the very best of automotive culture and nostalgia. Visitors will be able to experience over 700 classic cars at the show including some of the most legendary 'Getaway cars' from automotive history, used by some of popular culture's most infamous criminals, in one of the show's most hotly anticipated feature areas to date.

The Grand Avenue will make a return this year, paying homage to

Closing date: Thursday, February 8, 2018

'Specials', the limited editions, one-offs and prototypes of unique street and competition cars renowned for their rarity, curiosity and desirability. Visitors will witness some of the world's most genre defining cars cruise down Grand Avenue in a spectacle like no other.

The show will also celebrate the work and career of an unsung hero of British motor racing with the presentation of the Icon Award, marvelling at their triumphs and achievements through the years. This year's icon remains a closely guarded secret and will be announced in the coming weeks.

Teeming with excitement, thrill and inspiration, this unmissable show

promises a brilliant day out for the whole family.

WIN TICKETS!

We have ten pairs of Sunday tickets for this fantastic show and to be in with a chance of winning all you have to do is answer this simple question:

Q: One of this year's features is Get Away Cars. What classic motor was used as get away cars in the 1969 film "The Italian Job"?



To enter this competition and more like it, go online to
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residents.**



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Your weekly puzzle challenge

CROSS CODE

14	22	18	19	6	14	9		4	18	9	14	19
25		13		15		2	9	21		14		2
11	2	13	17	20	14	6		11	20	4	13	6
21		14		13		18		21		18		18
12	21	4	25	9		13	2	6	18	16	14	19
	9			14	3	3	19			14		26
4	14	6	18	4	14		10	18	13	9	25	24
14		14			4	14	19	6			20	
1	21	13	9	14	5	13		2	9	2	3	14
18		19		13		9		25		25		7
23	4	18	8	14		21	22	18	9	18	19	14
14		21		5	14	12		1		10		1
19	20	13	13	24		19	20	19	23	14	1	6

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

Each number in our Cross Code grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. You have three letters in the control grid to start you off. Enter them in the appropriate squares in the main grid, then use your knowledge of words to work out which letters should go in the missing squares.

As you get the letters, fill in other squares with the same number in the main grid and control grid. Check off the alphabetical list of letters as you identify them.

MAGIC SQUARE

THIS DUNCE CURED IT

Using all 16 letters of the phrase above, form four words each of four letters which will fit in the grid to form a magic square in which the words can be read both horizontally and vertically.

Quiz Challenge

1. What is the profession of actor George Clooney's wife Amal Alamuddin?
2. Which mixer drink is flavoured with quinine?
3. The American crime drama TV series The Wire is set in which US city?
4. What 12-letter R word is the national flower of Nepal?
5. Who played Daniel Cleaver opposite Renee Zellweger's character in the first two Bridget Jones movies?
6. Together with Flavio Briatore, F1 supremo Bernie Ecclestone owned which English football club from 2007 to 2011?
7. According to philosopher Karl Marx, what is "the opium of the people"?
8. "But why in spite of our age difference do I cry" is a lyric from which Gilbert O'Sullivan hit song?
9. Aviophobia is the fear of what?
10. Jueves is the Spanish word for which day of the week?

NONAGRAM

S	U	P
F	R	O
R	O	T

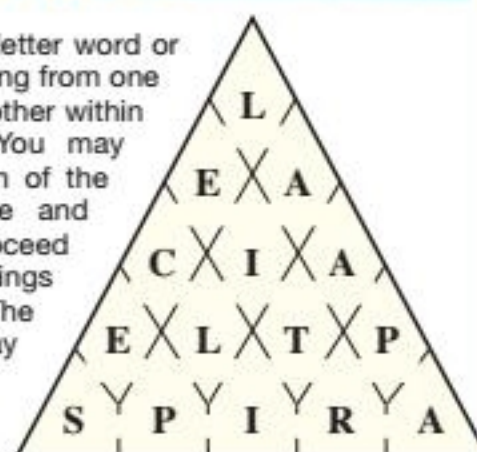
How many words of four letters or more can you make from this Nonagram? Each word must use the central letter, and each letter may be used only once. At least one word using all nine letters can be found.

Guidelines: 20 Good; 23 Very Good; 27 Excellent.

Any word found in the Concise Oxford Dictionary (Tenth Edition) is eligible with the following exceptions: proper nouns; plural nouns; pronouns and possessives; third person singular verbs; hyphenated words; contractions and abbreviations; vulgar slang words; variant spellings of the same word (where another variant is also eligible).

WORD PYRAMID

Spell out a 15-letter word or phrase by moving from one chamber to another within the pyramid. You may only enter each of the chambers once and may only proceed through openings in the walls. The first letter may appear in any chamber.



FIVE ALIVE

WK	NO	OR	LC	DK
OI		CO		AO
LR	IA	MC	EI	RT
TE		UA		EM
AS	EO	RN	DT	SA

Here are two miniature five-square crosswords using the same grid – but the letters have been mixed up. You have to work out which letters belong to which crossword.

EQUALISER

9	5
6	2
2	2
14	2
1	1

Place the four signs (add, subtract, multiply, divide) one in each circle so that the total of each across and down line is the same. Perform the first calculation in each line first and ignore the mathematical law which says you should always perform division and multiplication before addition and subtraction.

All puzzles on this page are supplied by Sirius Media Services. To try more of our puzzles interactively online go to www.puzzledrome.com

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CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

1		2		3		4		5		6		7
9												
11												
14		15				16				17		
20												
22												

ACROSS

1. A comedown for the family inheritance (7)
8. Translated his wail into African language (7)
9. Not the way of peace (7)
10. What potential heir in time will do (7)
11. Gold tooth found in spacecraft (7)
12. Vehicle melting tarmac by river (7)
14. He could be Flemish (7)
18. Foolish lunatic in charge (7)
20. Devastated Don fled battle in Northumberland (7)
21. Notedly disturbed? (7)
22. Still in the forest fully clothed (7)
23. Main supports needed to maintain one's balance (3,4)

DOWN

1. Fluff found in a rural setting? (4,2,3,4)
2. Mark a scholar of old (6)
3. Lay down the law (5)
4. This turned out to be right item of clothing (1-5)
5. Dunce sees two articles during craze (7)
6. Channel Islands' right-back in charge of acid (6)
7. Winner of first clue will get a medal for valour (8,5)
13. Show the red card at farewell party (4-3)
15. Communist finds a ring in the fog (6)
16. Last rounds of exams (6)
17. Did RAF set out to do this? (6)
19. In the same place Liz is topless on a Spanish island (5)

QUICK CROSSWORD

1		2		3		4		5		6		7
8												
12												
18		19		20	21		22	23		24		25
26												
29												
31												

ACROSS

1. Satisfy one's thirst (6)
4. Besmear (6)
8. ----- the Hun (6)
10. Introductory textbook (6)
11. Internal organ (5)
12. Gossip (6)
14. Soaked (6)
16. Time long past (4)
17. Card with three spots (4)
19. Animal skin (4)
22. Aromatic plant (4)

DOWN

26. Angle (6)
27. Decorated (6)
28. Dutch cheese (5)
29. Raised (6)
30. In flower (6)
31. Scoff at (6)
32. Setting agent (6)
1. Attractively old-fashioned (6)
2. Existence (6)
3. Visitor (6)
5. Looking-glass (6)
6. Cure (6)
7. Renting (6)
9. Yorkshire river (4)
10. Nuisance (4)
13. Symbol (5)
15. Condescend (5)
18. Climbed (6)
19. Favour (6)
20. Myth (6)
21. Trampled (4)
22. Carbonated drink (4)
23. Type of farmland (6)
24. Dine in a restaurant (3,3)
25. Sailor (6)

SUDOKU

Easy

Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9, and so must each 3 x 3 box.

Hard

		5	2	6				1
	8		3		1	5		
	9		8					
2	4		7					
5		8			9			
				1		2		9
		1	9		2		3	
	7		5			1	2	
8		6			3			7

	5		4					
	2			9	6			3
6								2
3			2				7	
2	9			8			6	
				6			2	9
			1					3
	8				3			4
7		5			6			

SOLUTIONS

CROSS CODE: 1. Actor's wife: lawyer; 2. Mixer: tonic; 3. Wire: New York; 4. Flower: rhododendron; 5. R word: rot; 6. Daniel Cleaver: James Van Der Beek; 7. English football club: Manchester United; 8. Opium: heroin; 9. Fear: flying; 10. Spanish day: Thursday.

NONAGRAM: 1. ROT; 2. URO; 3. SOT; 4. TRO; 5. FRO; 6. FRO; 7. FRO; 8. FRO; 9. FRO; 10. FRO; 11. FRO; 12. FRO; 13. FRO; 14. FRO; 15. FRO; 16. FRO; 17. FRO; 18. FRO; 19. FRO; 20. FRO; 21. FRO; 22. FRO; 23. FRO; 24. FRO; 25. FRO; 26. FRO; 27. FRO; 28. FRO; 29. FRO; 30. FRO; 31. FRO; 32. FRO; 33. FRO; 34. FRO; 35. FRO; 36. FRO; 37. FRO; 38. FRO; 39. FRO; 40. FRO; 41. FRO; 42. FRO; 43. FRO; 44. FRO; 45. FRO; 46. FRO; 47. FRO; 48. FRO; 49. FRO; 50. FRO; 51. FRO; 52. FRO; 53. FRO; 54. FRO; 55. FRO; 56. FRO; 57. FRO; 58. FRO; 59. FRO; 60. FRO; 61. FRO; 62. FRO; 63. FRO; 64. FRO; 65. FRO; 66. FRO; 67. FRO; 68. FRO; 69. FRO; 70. FRO; 71. FRO; 72. FRO; 73. FRO; 74. FRO; 75. FRO; 76. FRO; 77. FRO; 78. FRO; 79. FRO; 80. FRO; 81. FRO; 82. FRO; 83. FRO; 84. FRO; 85. FRO; 86. FRO; 87. FRO; 88. FRO; 89. FRO; 90. FRO; 91. FRO; 92. FRO; 93. FRO; 94. FRO; 95. FRO; 96. FRO; 97. FRO; 98. FRO; 99. FRO; 100. FRO.

WORD PYRAMID: 1. ROT; 2. URO; 3. SOT; 4. TRO; 5. FRO; 6. FRO; 7. FRO; 8. FRO; 9. FRO; 10. FRO; 11. FRO; 12. FRO; 13. FRO; 14. FRO; 15. FRO; 16. FRO; 17. FRO; 18. FRO; 19. FRO; 20. FRO; 21. FRO; 22. FRO; 23. FRO; 24. FRO; 25. FRO; 26. FRO; 27. FRO; 28. FRO; 29. FRO; 30. FRO; 31. FRO; 32. FRO; 33. FRO; 34. FRO; 35. FRO; 36. FRO; 37. FRO; 38. FRO; 39. FRO; 40. FRO; 41. FRO; 42. FRO; 43. FRO; 44. FRO; 45. FRO; 46. FRO; 47. FRO; 48. FRO; 49. FRO; 50. FRO; 51. FRO; 52. FRO; 53. FRO; 54. FRO; 55. FRO; 56. FRO; 57. FRO; 58. FRO; 59. FRO; 60. FRO; 61. FRO; 62. FRO; 63. FRO; 64. FRO; 65. FRO; 66. FRO; 67. FRO; 68. FRO; 69. FRO; 70. FRO; 71. FRO; 72. FRO; 73. FRO; 74. FRO; 75. FRO; 76. FRO; 77. FRO; 78. FRO; 79. FRO; 80. FRO; 81. FRO; 82. FRO; 83. FRO; 84. FRO; 85. FRO; 86. FRO; 87. FRO; 88. FRO; 89. FRO; 90. FRO; 91. FRO; 92. FRO; 93. FRO; 94. FRO; 95. FRO; 96. FRO; 97. FRO; 98. FRO; 99. FRO; 100. FRO.

FIVE ALIVE: 1. WK; 2. NO; 3. OR; 4. LC; 5. DK; 6. OI; 7. CO; 8. AO; 9. LR; 10. IA; 11. MC; 12. EI; 13. RT; 14. TE; 15. UA; 16. EM; 17. AS; 18. EO; 19. RN; 20. DT; 21. SA.

EQUALISER: 1. 9; 2. 5; 3. 6; 4. 2; 5. 3; 6. 2; 7. 2; 8. 14; 9. 2; 10. 4; 11. 1; 12. 1.

QUICK CROSSWORD: 1. Satisfy one's thirst (6); 2. Besmear (6); 3. In flower (6); 4. Introductory textbook (6); 5. Internal organ (5); 6. Gossip (6); 7. Soaked (6); 8. Time long past (4); 9. Card with three spots (4); 10. Animal skin (4); 11. Aromatic plant (4); 12. Angle (6); 13. Decorated (6); 14. Dutch cheese (5); 15. Raised (6); 16. In flower (6); 17. Scoff at (6); 18. Setting agent (6); 19. Attractively old-fashioned (6); 20. Existence (6); 21. Visitor (6); 22. Looking-glass (6); 23. Cure (6); 24. Renting (6); 25. Yorkshire river (4); 26. Nuisance (4); 27. Symbol (5); 28. Condescend (5); 29. Climbed (6); 30. Favour (6); 31. Myth (6); 32. Trampled (4); 33. Carbonated drink (4); 34. Type of farmland (6); 35. Dine in a restaurant (3,3); 36. Sailor (6).



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- A chance to talk to the Richmond Villages' team
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Thursday January 11th

TOP TV

MORNING

AFTERNOON

EVENING

BBC 1

9.00pm Death in Paradise



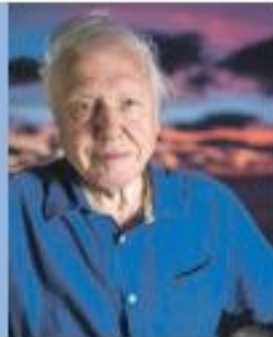
9.15am Rip Off Britain
10.00am Homes Under the Hammer
11.00am Wanted Down Under
11.45am Close Calls: On Camera

12.15pm Bargain Hunt
1.00pm BBC News at One
1.30pm Regional News and Weather
1.45pm Doctors
2.15pm Father Brown
3.00pm I Escaped to the Country
3.45pm The Farmers' Country Showdown
4.30pm Antiques Road Trip
5.15pm Pointless

6.00pm BBC News at Six
6.30pm Regional News and Weather
7.00pm The One Show
7.30pm EastEnders
8.00pm Big Cats
9.00pm Death in Paradise
10.00pm BBC News at Ten
10.30pm Regional News and Weather
10.45pm Question Time
11.45pm This Week
12.30am Weather for the Week Ahead
12.35am BBC News
6.00am Breakfast

BBC 2

4.15pm Great Barrier Reef with David Attenborough



7.15am Antiques Road Trip
8.00am MasterChef: The Professionals
9.00am Victoria Derbyshire
11.00am BBC Newsroom Live

12.00pm The Daily Politics
1.00pm Coast
1.15pm Brazil with Michael Palin
2.15pm Himalaya with Michael Palin
3.15pm The Great British Winter
4.15pm Great Barrier Reef with David Attenborough
5.15pm Flog It!

6.00pm Eggheads
6.30pm Great British Railway Journeys
7.00pm Rick Stein's Road to Mexico
8.00pm Hairy Bikers' Mediterranean Adventure
9.00pm A House Through Time
10.00pm Live at the Apollo
10.30pm Newsnight
11.15pm Michael Palin: A Life on Screen
12.15am Labour - The Summer that Changed Everything
1.15am Imagine...
2.20am This is BBC Two
6.00am Flog it! Trade Secrets

ITV

7.00pm Emmerdale



8.30am Lorraine
9.25am The Jeremy Kyle Show
10.30am This Morning

12.30pm Loose Women
1.30pm ITV News
1.55pm ITV News London
2.00pm Judge Rinder
3.00pm Dickinson's Real Deal
4.00pm Tipping Point
5.00pm The Chase

6.00pm ITV News London
6.30pm ITV Evening News
7.00pm Emmerdale
7.30pm Tonight
8.00pm Emmerdale
8.30pm The Cruise
9.00pm Transformation Street
10.00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather
10.30pm ITV News London
10.45pm Great Art
11.45pm Joanna Lumley's Postcards
12.10am Jackpot247
3.00am Tonight
3.25am ITV Nightscreen

Channel 4

10.35pm The Undateables



7.10am Everybody Loves Raymond
8.30am Frasier
10.05am Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA
11.00am Sun, Sea and Selling Houses

12.00pm Channel 4 News
12.05pm Darts
5.00pm Come Dine with Me

6.00pm The Simpsons
6.30pm Hollyoaks
7.00pm Channel 4 News
8.00pm George Clarke's Amazing Spaces
9.00pm Hunted
10.00pm Derry Girls
10.35pm The Undateables
11.35pm Working Class White Men
12.35am The Secret Life of the Zoo
1.30am Food Unwrapped Diet Special
2.30am How to Retire at 40
3.00am Grand Designs
3.55am Coast v Country

Channel 5

2.15pm NCIS



8.20am Rusty Rivets
8.35am Shimmer and Shine
8.55am Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom
9.05am Mofy
9.15am The Wright Stuff
11.15am GPs: Behind Closed Doors

12.10pm 5 News Lunchtime
12.15pm The Hotel Inspector
1.15pm Home and Away
1.45pm Neighbours
2.15pm NCIS
3.15pm Dear Diary, I Died
5.00pm 5 News at 5
5.30pm Neighbours

6.00pm Home and Away
6.30pm 5 News Tonight
7.00pm Baby Ballroom
8.00pm Big Family Values: More Kids Than Cash
9.00pm Celebrity Big Brother
10.00pm Celebrity 100% Hotter!
11.05pm Celebrity Big Brother's Bit on the Side
12.00am Super Casino
3.10am GPs: Behind Closed Doors
4.00am Now That's Funny!
4.45am House Doctor
5.10am Wildlife SOS

Friday January 12th

TOP TV

MORNING

AFTERNOON

EVENING

BBC 1

11.45am Close Calls: On Camera



9.15am Rip Off Britain
10.00am Homes Under the Hammer
11.00am Wanted Down Under
11.45am Close Calls: On Camera

12.15pm Bargain Hunt
1.00pm BBC News at One
1.30pm Regional News and Weather
1.45pm Doctors
2.15pm Father Brown
3.00pm I Escaped to the Country
3.45pm The Farmers' Country Showdown
4.30pm Antiques Road Trip
5.15pm Pointless

6.00pm BBC News at Six
6.30pm Regional News and Weather
7.00pm The One Show
7.30pm A Question of Sport
8.00pm EastEnders
8.30pm Room 101
9.00pm Would I Lie to You?
9.30pm Mrs. Brown's Boys
10.00pm BBC News at Ten
10.25pm Regional News and Weather
10.35pm The Graham Norton Show
11.25pm Witless
11.50pm Sticky
12.15am Weather for the Week Ahead

BBC 2

6.30pm Great British Railway Journeys



7.15am Antiques Road Trip
8.00am MasterChef: The Professionals
9.00am Victoria Derbyshire
11.00am BBC Newsroom Live

12.00pm The Daily Politics
1.00pm Coast
1.15pm Himalaya with Michael Palin
3.15pm The Great British Winter
4.15pm Great Barrier Reef with David Attenborough
5.15pm Flog It!

6.00pm Eggheads
6.30pm Great British Railway Journeys
7.00pm Rick Stein's Road to Mexico
8.00pm Mastermind
8.30pm A Vicar's Life
9.00pm Rome Unpacked
10.00pm QI
10.30pm Newsnight
11.05pm Deep Water
12.50am Panorama
1.20am Annie: Out of the Ashes
2.05am This is BBC Two
6.10am The Wonder of Animals
6.40am Naomi's Nightmares of Nature

ITV

9.00pm Lethal Weapon



8.30am Lorraine
9.25am The Jeremy Kyle Show
10.30am This Morning

12.30pm Loose Women
1.30pm ITV News
1.55pm ITV News London
2.00pm Judge Rinder
3.00pm Dickinson's Real Deal
4.00pm Tipping Point
5.00pm The Chase

6.00pm ITV News London
6.30pm ITV Evening News
7.00pm Emmerdale
7.30pm Coronation Street
8.00pm River Monsters
8.30pm Coronation Street
9.00pm Lethal Weapon
10.00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather
10.30pm ITV News London
10.45pm Take Me Out
11.45pm Through the Keyhole
12.35am Jackpot247
3.00am Alphabetical
3.50am ITV Nightscreen

Channel 4

11.05pm First Dates Hotel



7.10am Everybody Loves Raymond
8.35am Frasier
10.05am Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA
11.00am Sun, Sea and Selling Houses

12.00pm Channel 4 News
12.05pm Darts
5.00pm Come Dine with Me

6.00pm The Simpsons
6.30pm Hollyoaks
7.00pm Channel 4 News
8.00pm Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast
9.00pm The Big Fat Quiz of Everything
11.05pm First Dates Hotel
12.10am Amy Kiri
3.20am Grand Designs
4.15am Coast v Country
Location, Location, Location
6.05am Kirstie's Vintage Gems
6.25am King of Queens

Channel 5

8.00pm Costa Del Celebrity



8.20am Rusty Rivets
8.35am Shimmer and Shine
8.55am Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom
9.05am Mofy
9.15am The Wright Stuff
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12.15pm The Hotel Inspector
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1.45pm Neighbours
2.15pm NCIS
3.15pm The Perfect Stalker
5.00pm 5 News at 5
5.30pm Neighbours

6.00pm Home and Away
6.30pm 5 News Tonight
7.00pm The Wine Show
8.00pm Costa Del Celebrity
9.00pm Celebrity Big Brother
10.00pm Will and Grace
10.35pm Celebrity Big Brother
11.05pm Celebrity Big Brother's Bit on the Side
12.00am Super Casino
3.10am Celebrity Big Brother
Lip Sync Battle UK
4.45am House Doctor
5.10am Wildlife SOS

ADVERTORIAL

Simple steps homeowners can take now to protect their assets

Head of April King Legal Paul King explains why some homeowners are doing too little, too late to protect their hard-earned assets.



Paul King, Head of April King Legal

1. Care Cost Fees

A lot of people are still unaware that if they need care in later life, their assets will be means-tested by the local authority to help pay for these services. This goes back to the Community Care Act 1990, which came into force in 1993.

If someone requires social care in later life, the local authority will look to use the assets of a person until they get down to a lower limit of £14,250, when the local authority will take over the fees.

Paul knows this all too well, after experiencing this personally. "My own grandmother sadly passed away recently at the age of 92. My grandfather had died many years earlier and left everything to her.

When she needed care in the last six years of her life, because my grandfather had left everything to her, the house and all the estate were counted in the local authority's means test.

Our clients tell us, 'We've worked hard all our lives, why should the local authority get it all?'

Just as she died, she had gone down to that lower limit of £14,250 – and that's all that her children inherited."

There are many myths about the steps people can take to protect their assets from being used like this. The main one is that a parent should simply sign their house over to the children now, so it won't be taken into consideration for means testing. That's just not true.

Local authorities will actually look to see if you've 'deliberately deprived' yourself of an asset by giving property away, going back over any period in time.

Sometimes people think if the gift is made seven years prior then the house is safe.

This is not so as the seven-year rule only applies to Inheritance Tax and not local authority care.

The solution is for couples to simply not leave everything to each other in the first place.

Paul continues: "What my grandfather could have done is leave his half of the house in trust to his children, stating that they couldn't have it while his wife, my grandmother, was still alive. We call these Property Trust Wills.

If my grandfather had left his half of the house in trust to the children then when my grandmother subsequently received care in her later life she would have only been means tested on her own half of the house, but my grandfather's half would have been safe.

Why should he have to contribute his half when he didn't receive any care?

The important factor is that couples need to act in advance. Once one party dies or loses mental capacity, through a stroke for example, they are no longer in a position to do this legitimate and straightforward type of planning.

It is therefore important for couples to act now even if they may not foresee care fees being an issue."

Paul goes on to explain a further important point. Most clients he sees are surprised to learn that remarriage usually cancels a will and makes the new spouse next in line to inherit, ahead of their own children!

Protecting your half of the house in this way, he suggests, ensures that your children ultimately inherit when the survivor dies.

"Had my grandmother remarried after the death of my grandfather the whole estate could have passed sideways out of the family," says Paul.

It's another important reason for home-owning couples to upgrade to a Property Trust Will.

2. Bloodline Trust Wills

The majority of April King's clients have already made standard "mirror wills" with other firms before approaching the firm. A mirror will is when a couple leave everything to each other on the first death, then to the children when the second partner dies. But modern family life means these type of wills leave a lot to chance.

Explains Paul: "If I have a mirror will leaving everything to my wife and she remarries or goes into care after my death then either the new husband or the local authority are likely to inherit most, if not all, of my estate ahead of my children.

Even if my children are named in my mirror will it is by no means certain that they will inherit anything.

Once again, this is because a remarriage would cancel the will my wife had previously made with me and make the new husband next-of-kin. This often comes as a big shock to my clients who had perhaps thought that all was in order and that the family bloodline would one day inherit.

The same is true for thinking that their children and/or grandchildren will one day benefit under a mirror will. If any of your children should die leaving everything to their husband or wife and that son-in-law or daughter-in-law should then remarry, then your grandchildren would be the ones to lose out under the line of inheritance.

Worse still, someone else's grandchildren would be in line to receive the benefit of all your years of hard work!

I've experienced this in my own family and I'm sure most people have had similar experiences or heard of someone who has. Bloodline trusts will give greater protection to your children."

Paul continues: "These things can be avoided by having a bloodline trusts will. Under these types of wills your children have complete control

and access to the inheritance they receive from you but give added protection from the twists and turns of modern family life. The wording in these wills states that any money left over on their demise must pass to any children born of them – your grandchildren."

3. Lasting Power of Attorney

Paul explains how people often get confused thinking that, because they have made a will, their executors can also deal with assets if there is illness, stroke or some other form of incapacity while they are still alive.

"Everyone should actually have two documents – a will that deals with their estate on death, and a lasting power of attorney that deals with their estate during their lifetime," he says.

The lasting power of attorney is a relatively new introduction and is divided into two parts – one deals with finance, the other deals with health and welfare. In many ways it's similar to a passport; a document that's registered now and one which can be physically handed to the attorneys should the need arise. It allows the attorneys, perhaps the children, to deal with banks and pension companies etc should their parent become incapacitated, but also to deal with matters such as where the parent should be living and how they receive care. Your attorneys, again perhaps your children, must legally act in your best interests at all times. You can choose a number of attorneys to act, either jointly or independently, and April King advises on the various options available.

Couples are often surprised to discover that even joint bank accounts can be frozen until the bank sees sight of a lasting power of attorney document

Having a lasting power of attorney removes the burden on children should ill-health happen further down the line. It helps a family deal with bank accounts and so on during a parent's lifetime and ceases on death. Crucially, you have to complete a lasting power of attorney while they are still in good mental health.

If someone becomes ill through say, a stroke or dementia, this option is lost and the family would have to apply for an order from the Court of Protection – a drawn out and expensive process. It is therefore a good idea for clients to plan ahead and remove any future burden from the family.

Once again, all adults should be thinking of this, particularly where there are children or a business involved. It's not just something to think about when you get older, that's the challenge for us.

People think 'I'm not ill, why do I need to make a power of attorney?'

But they're missing the point. This is a document that has to be done in advance. Paul adds: "The next part is to appoint the attorneys, your children. Don't forget, your children can be the executors of your will and attorneys as well. The lasting power of attorney remains in place until you die unless you want to cancel it. Once it's registered, you don't have to worry if you then develop some debilitating illness. A burden has been removed from the family at an already difficult time."



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Saturday January 13th

TOP TV	BBC 1		BBC 2		ITV		Channel 4		Channel 5	
	1.15pm Athletics 		4.15pm Flog It! 		2.30pm Free Willy 2: The Adventure Home 		9.00pm Mission: Impossible - Rogue Nation 		12.55pm The A-Team 	
	10.00am Saturday Kitchen Live 11.30am Mary Berry Everyday		8.00am The Dengineers 8.30am Deadly Top 10 9.00am Robot Wars 10.00am Steve Backshall's Extreme Mountain Challenge 11.00am Pets: Wild at Heart		9.05am Wishart 9.25am ITV News 9.30am Saturday Morning with James Martin 11.25am Save Money: Good Food 11.55am Countrywise		7.15am King of Queens 7.40am Everybody Loves Raymond 8.35am Frasier 10.05am The Big Bang Theory 11.30am The Simpsons		9.40am Digby Dragon 9.55am Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 10.30am Cats Make You Laugh Out Loud 10.55am Police Interceptors: Deadly Pursuits 11.55am Police Interceptors	
	12.00pm Football Focus 1.00pm BBC News 1.15pm Athletics 3.15pm Money for Nothing 4.00pm Final Score 5.10pm Celebrity Mastermind 5.40pm BBC News 5.50pm Regional News and Weather		12.00pm Hairy Bikers' Mediterranean Adventure 1.00pm A Vicar's Life 1.30pm Back to the Land with Kate Humble 2.30pm Rome Unpacked 3.30pm Brendan Foster: A Life in Athletics 4.15pm Flog It! 5.00pm Trust Me, I'm a Doctor 5.30pm Tom Kerridge's Lose Weight for Good		12.25pm ITV News 12.35pm Dancing on Ice 2.30pm Free Willy 2: The Adventure Home 4.20pm The Chase 5.20pm ITV News London 5.30pm ITV News 5.45pm The Brits are Coming 2018		1.00pm Come Dine with Me 2.00pm Darts 6.00pm A Place in the Sun 6.30pm Channel 4 News 7.00pm Spying on the Royals 8.00pm Queen Victoria's Last Love 9.00pm Mission: Impossible - Rogue Nation 11.40pm Transporter 2 1.20am Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA		12.55pm The A-Team 3.00pm FIA Formula E 5.15pm Dogs Make You Laugh Out Loud	
EVENING	6.00pm And They're Off... for Sport Relief 6.40pm Pointless 7.25pm Wedding Day Winners 8.25pm Casualty 9.15pm BBC News 9.35pm Hard Sun 10.30pm Match of the Day 11.55pm The NFL Show 12.25am Mister John 1.55am Weather for the Week Ahead 2.00am BBC News 6.00am Breakfast		6.00pm Hugh's Wild West 7.00pm A House Through Time 8.00pm Dad's Army 8.30pm Grand Tours of Scotland's Lochs 9.00pm Live at the Apollo 9.45pm QI XL 10.30pm Madonna Rebel Heart Tour 12.30am Night Train to Lisbon 2.15am This is BBC Two 6.00am Coast		6.45pm Take Me Out 8.00pm The Voice UK 9.30pm Through the Keyhole 10.25pm ITV News 10.45pm Jaws 2 12.45am Jackpot247 3.00am Babushka 3.50am ITV Nightscreen 6.00am Sooty 6.10am Bottom Knocker Street 6.35am Dino Dana 6.50am Super 4		2.10am Hollyoaks Omnibus 4.15am Coast v Country 5.10am The Autistic Gardener 6.05am Kirstie's Handmade Treasures 6.10am King of Queens		6.10pm The Wonderful World of Puppies 7.00pm Greatest Ever Celebrity Wind-Ups 8.00pm Blind Date 9.00pm Football on 5 10.30pm Celebrity Big Brother 11.30pm Lip Sync Battle UK 12.00am Super Casino 3.10am Jonah Hex 4.30am Access 4.40am House Doctor 5.05am Wildlife SOS 5.35am Nick's Quest	

Sunday January 14th

TOP TV	BBC 1		BBC 2		ITV		Channel 4		Channel 5	
	9.00pm McMafia 		5.35pm Ski Sunday 		6.00pm Dancing on Ice 		2.05pm Two by Two 		4.40pm Garfield 2: A Tail of Two Kitties 	
	7.35am Match of the Day 9.00am The Andrew Marr Show 10.00am The Big Questions 11.00am Sunday Politics		8.15am Greatest Gardens 8.50am Countryfile 9.45am Saturday Kitchen Best Bites 11.15am Raymond Blanc: How to Cook Well 11.45am Food and Drink		8.30am Spy School 9.05am Wishart 9.25am ITV News 9.30am River Monsters 10.00am Peston on Sunday 11.00am The Martin Lewis Money Show Live		7.00am Everybody Loves Raymond 7.55am Frasier 9.30am Sunday Brunch		9.00am Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom 9.10am Shimmer and Shine 9.25am Digby Dragon 9.45am Peppa Pig 10.00am Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 10.35am Football on 5	
	12.15pm Bargain Hunt 1.00pm BBC News 1.15pm Money for Nothing 2.00pm Escape to the Country 2.30pm The Truth About Looking Good 3.30pm Big Cats 4.30pm Songs of Praise 5.05pm Attenborough and the Sea Dragon		12.15pm MOTD2 Extra 1.00pm Masters Snooker 5.35pm Ski Sunday		12.00pm The Voice UK 1.30pm ITV News 1.40pm Britain's Brightest Family 2.10pm The Cruise 2.40pm Death Becomes Her 4.35pm ITV News London 4.45pm ITV News 5.00pm The Chase: Celebrity Special		12.30pm Jamie's Quick and Easy Food 1.05pm The Simpsons 2.05pm Two by Two 3.50pm Channel 4 News 4.15pm Darts		12.00pm Blind Date 1.00pm Will and Grace 1.30pm Are We There Yet? 3.15pm Dennis Strikes Again 4.40pm Garfield 2: A Tail of Two Kitties	
EVENING	6.05pm BBC News 6.20pm Regional News and Weather 6.30pm Countryfile 7.30pm Still Open All Hours 8.00pm The Coronation 9.00pm McMafia 10.00pm BBC News 10.20pm Regional News and Weather 10.30pm Match of the Day 2 11.30pm Man Like Mobeen 12.15am Weather for the Week Ahead 12.20am BBC News 6.00am Breakfast		6.20pm Mr Holmes 8.00pm Yellowstone 9.00pm Dragons' Den 10.00pm The Water Diviner 11.45pm Masters Snooker Highlights 12.35am Masters Snooker Extra 2.35am Question Time 3.35am Holby City 4.35am This is BBC Two 6.00am Flog it! Trade Secrets 6.30am The Farmers' Country Showdown		6.00pm Dancing on Ice 8.00pm Vera 10.00pm ITV News 10.15pm Peston on Sunday 11.10pm Next of Kin 12.05am Great Art 1.00am Jackpot247 3.00am Sunday Night at the Palladium 3.50am ITV Nightscreen 5.05am The Jeremy Kyle Show 6.00am Good Morning Britain		8.00pm The Biggest Little Railway in the World 9.00pm SAS: Who Dares Wins 10.00pm The Big Fat Quiz of Everything 12.00am Killing Them Softly 1.45am Grand Designs 2.40am Location, Location, Location 3.35am KOTV Boxing Weekly 4.00am Gillette World Sport 4.30am Coast v Country 5.25am How to Stay Well 5.50am Kirstie's Handmade Treasures 5.55am 3rd Rock from the Sun		6.10pm Pixels 7.10pm 5 News 7.15pm Pixels 8.00pm Billionaire Babies: 24 Carat Kids 8.55pm 5 News Weekend 9.00pm Celebrity Big Brother 10.05pm Grown Ups 2 11.55pm One Night with My Ex 12.55am Super Casino 3.10am GPs: Behind Closed Doors 4.00am Kavos: Get Your Tatts Out 4.45am House Doctor 5.10am Wildlife SOS 5.35am Divine Designs	

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MORNING

AFTERNOON

EVENING

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11.15pm
Miriam's Big
American
Adventure



9.15am Rip Off Britain
10.00am Homes Under the Hammer
11.00am Wanted Down Under
11.45am Close Calls: On Camera

12.15pm Bargain Hunt
1.00pm BBC News at One
1.30pm Regional News and Weather
1.45pm Doctors
2.15pm Father Brown
3.00pm Escape to the Country
3.45pm The Farmers' Country Showdown
4.30pm Antiques Road Trip
5.15pm Pointless

6.00pm BBC News at Six
6.30pm Regional News and Weather
7.00pm The One Show
7.30pm Inside Out
8.00pm EastEnders
8.30pm Panorama
9.00pm Silent Witness
10.00pm BBC News at Ten
10.30pm Regional News and Weather
10.45pm Have I Got Old News for You
11.15pm Miriam's Big American Adventure
12.15am The Graham Norton Show
1.05am Weather for the Week Ahead

BBC 2

7.00pm
Rick Stein's Road
to Mexico



7.15am Antiques Road Trip
8.00am Antiques Roadshow
9.00am Victoria Derbyshire
11.00am BBC Newsroom Live

12.00pm The Daily Politics
1.00pm Masters Snooker
4.45pm More Creatures
Great and Small
5.15pm Flog It!

6.00pm Eggheads
6.30pm Great British Railway Journeys
7.00pm Rick Stein's Road to Mexico
8.00pm Only Connect
8.30pm University Challenge
9.00pm Surgeons: At the Edge of Life
10.00pm Insert Name Here
10.30pm Newsnight
11.15pm Masters Snooker Highlights
12.05am Masters Snooker Extra
2.05am Countryfile
3.00am Rick Stein's Road to Mexico
4.00am This is BBC Two
6.00am Flog it! Trade Secrets

ITV

3.00pm
Dickinson's
Real Deal



8.30am Lorraine
9.25am The Jeremy Kyle Show
10.30am This Morning

12.30pm Loose Women
1.30pm ITV News
1.55pm ITV News London
2.00pm Judge Rinder
3.00pm Dickinson's Real Deal
4.00pm Tipping Point
5.00pm The Chase

6.00pm ITV News London
6.30pm ITV Evening News
7.00pm Emmerdale
7.30pm Coronation Street
8.00pm The Martin Lewis Money Show
8.30pm Coronation Street
9.00pm Next of Kin
10.00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather
10.30pm ITV News London
10.45pm School for Stammerers
12.10am Jackpot247
3.00am The Jeremy Kyle Show
3.50am ITV Nightscreen
5.05am The Jeremy Kyle Show

Channel 4

6.00pm
The Simpsons



7.10am Everybody Loves Raymond
8.30am Frasier
10.05am Ramsay's Kitchen
Nightmares USA
11.00am Sun, Sea and Selling Houses

12.00pm Channel 4 News
12.05pm Couples Come Dine with Me
1.05pm Posh Pawn
2.10pm Countdown
3.00pm Village of the Year
4.00pm A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun
5.00pm Four in a Bed
5.30pm Extreme Cake Makers

6.00pm The Simpsons
6.30pm Hollyoaks
7.00pm Channel 4 News
8.00pm How to Lose Weight Well
9.00pm The Undateables
10.00pm First Dates Hotel
11.05pm Derry Girls
11.35pm Hunted
12.35am SAS: Who Dares Wins
1.30am The Supertvet
2.25am Cabins in the Wild with
Dick Strawbridge
3.20am Coast v Country
4.15am Location, Location, Location

Channel 5

8.00pm Police
Interceptors



8.20am Rusty Rivets
8.35am Shimmer and Shine
8.55am Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom
9.05am Mofy
9.15am The Wright Stuff
11.15am GPs: Behind Closed Doors

12.10pm 5 News Lunchtime
12.15pm The Hotel Inspector
1.05pm Access
1.15pm Home and Away
1.45pm Neighbours
2.15pm NCIS
3.15pm The Wrong Mother
5.00pm 5 News at 5
5.30pm Neighbours

6.00pm Home and Away
6.30pm 5 News Tonight
7.00pm Car Crash TV
8.00pm Police Interceptors
9.00pm Celebrity Big Brother
10.00pm Not So Sweet Sixteen
11.05pm Celebrity Big Brother's
Bit on the Side
12.05am Celebrity Botched Up Bodies
1.00am Super Casino
3.10am Secrets of the National Trust
with Alan Titchmarsh
4.00am Get Your Tatts Out: Kavos Ink
4.45am House Doctor

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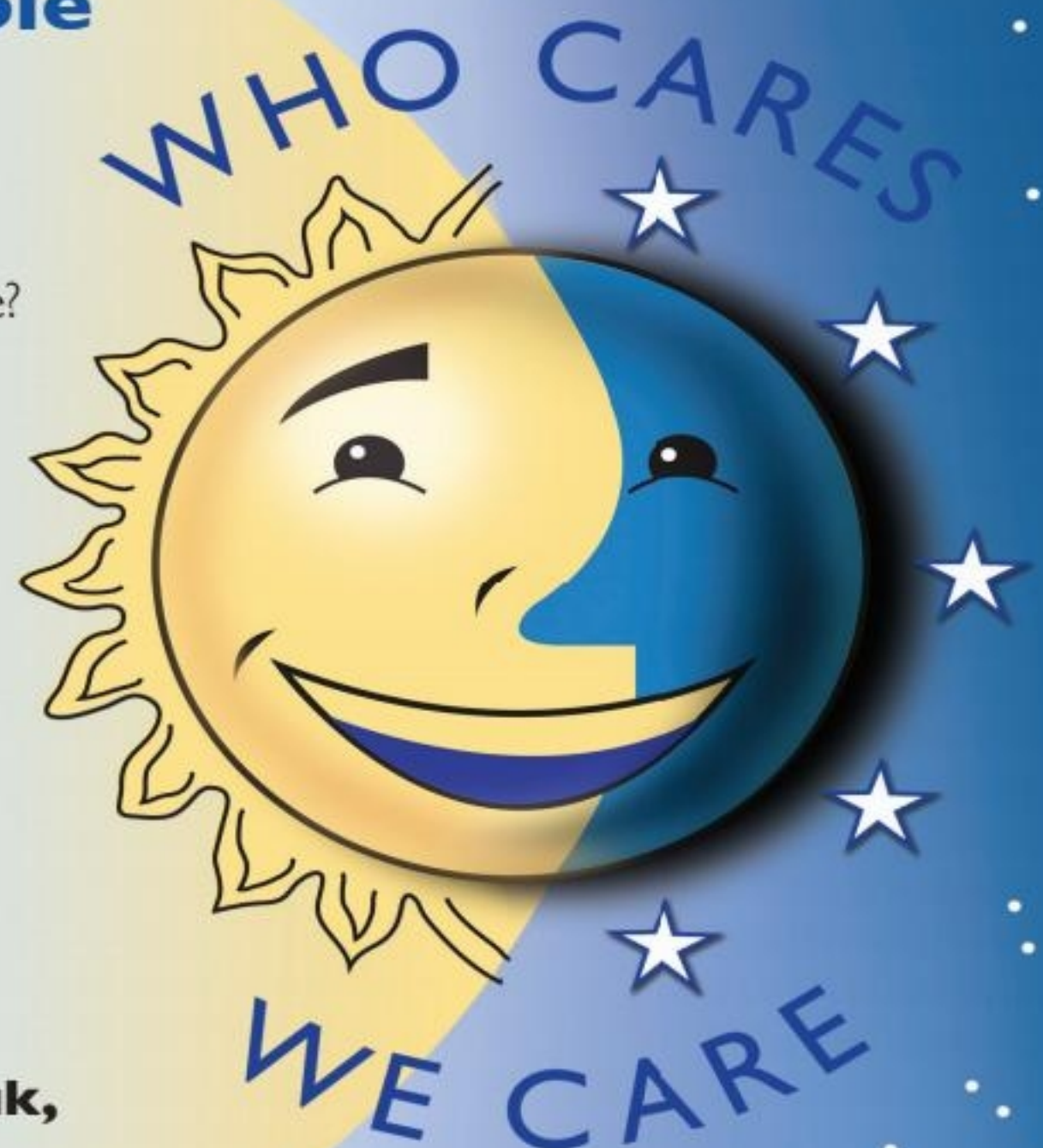
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Young professionals are unable to buy their first home in Oxford – Are the Baby Boomers and Landlords to Blame?

Bill Cooper, co-author of *The Oxford Property Blog* and managing director of Martin and Co, Oxford



Talk to some Oxford 20 something, for whom home ownership appears a vague dream, and they are vexatious towards the Baby Boomer generation and their pushover walk through life, their free university education, their eye watering property windfalls, their golden final salary pensions and their free bus passes.

If you bought a property in Oxford for £25,000 in first quarter of 1977, today it would be worth £549,429, an increase of 2097.7%.

But to blame the 60 and 70 year olds of Oxford for that seems a little unfair. The mature generations joined the property party in the 1970's and 1980's when they were allowed to take out

huge mortgages, protected by the knowledge that inflation would corrode the real value of the mortgage, increase property prices, while boosting wage growth enhancing their ability to repay.

Unlike Government, neither do I blame the multitude of Oxford buy to let landlords, buying up their 10th or 11th property to add to their buy to let portfolio. They too, merely reacted to the peculiar historic inducements of the UK property market.

Surely someone is to blame? Margaret Thatcher and Nigel Lawson are also good people to blame - selling off millions of council houses at knock-down

values and delaying ending of the MIRAS tax relief in 1987. The Blair/Brown combo doubled stamp duty in 1997 and again in 2000, which, as a tax on property transactions, precluding a more equitable distribution of current housing stock. And, our current Government has had plenty of opportunity to change the stamp duty rules to incentivise those mature Oxford house movers to downsize, but have failed to act.

It's easy to think the only reason that hundreds of first time buyers have been priced out of the Oxford housing market is because of private landlords. Yet, I believe they are undervalued. With first time buyers struggling to save for a deposit, if it weren't for those landlords buying up homes we would have a bigger housing crisis than we have today. Since the global financial crisis of 2008/9, local councils have cut services, and haven't had enough money to build new homes. Homes that were provided to Oxford instead by buy to let land-

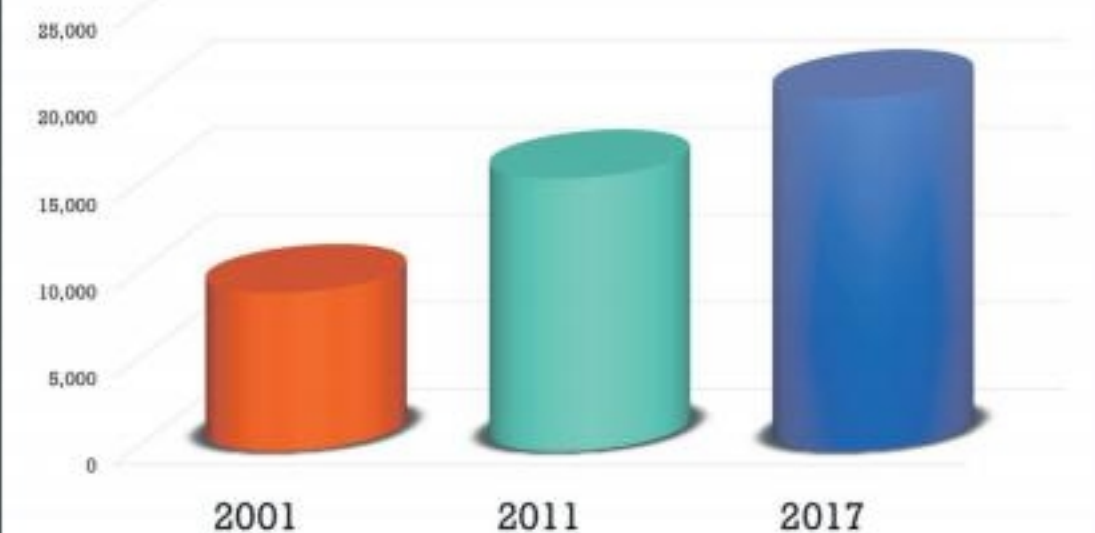
lords helping to reduce the scale of the current crisis.

657 homes are being bought by buy to let landlords each year in the Oxford City Council area when otherwise they might have been available to other buyers. But at a time when the current national average deposit is £51,800, most young people are simply unable to meet lenders' demands. And, homes bought by

local landlords are not standing empty, instead they equate to 4,596 of homes for local people, most of whom either see renting as a preferred option given the flexibility required by the early years of their professional lives, or accept that they cannot yet meet lender demands for deposits.

Number of Private Rented Properties in Oxford City Council 2001 to Today

Stats from Office of National Statistics and Denton House Property Market Research



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WANTAGE A brand new and well proportioned 3 bed family-home located within walking distance to Wantage Town Centre. Set over three floors the property is immaculately presented throughout. Available with no onward chain. EPC Rating C.

£340,000 Wantage office 01235 772670



WANTAGE A well presented three bedroom end of terrace home situated just 1.8 miles to the Wantage Market Place. The property is in good order throughout and the garage has been converted to provide an extra reception room. There is parking for two cars. EPC Rating Awaiting.

£275,000 Wantage office 01235 772670



WANTAGE A well presented three bedroom end of terrace home just 1.8 miles to the Wantage Market Place. The property benefits from a recently re-fitted kitchen, bathroom, and cloakroom. Potential to extend (stp). No onward chain. EPC Rating D.

£260,000 Wantage office 01235 772670



ABINGDON-ON-THAMES A renovated house with bay-fronted sitting room, separate study/reception room, utility room and cloakroom. An open-plan kitchen/family room and dining room, overlooks the garden. The rent is inclusive of a gardener. EPC Rating C

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ABINGDON-ON-THAMES A spacious duplex conversion in the central Brewery Development. This property features a modern kitchen/dining room, two double bedrooms (one with an en-suite, living room and first floor galleried study and a separate bathroom. EPC Rating B

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Subaru Forester 2.0i XE Premium

Impressive drive, on and off the road

By **Tony Yates**

AS this is my first review of 2018, I wanted to start it off with something pretty special in the form of the updated Subaru Forester 2.0i XE Premium. For those of you who don't know this, the Forester really is the hidden gem when it comes to doing everything right first time and with minimal fuss. The Forester to me is the car that has it all and a car that will probably never let you down. Yes, that may seem a little over the top, but there is a reason for this. The Subaru Forester is an utterly brilliant car in every way. If you are still not convinced, then sit back and read on as I explain the pure brilliance of this machine.

Power & efficiency

The Forester was equipped with a powerful and efficient 2.0-litre Horizontally-opposed, 4 cylinder petrol engine - a unit that provides you with a maximum power of 150 PS and a torque figure of 198Nm. The Forester

also achieved 40.3mpg on the combined cycle which is quite impressive. Maximum speed comes in at around 119mph and a 0-62mph of 11.8s. This is also an engine that provides more than enough power on the road - whilst its horizontally-opposed 4 cylinder design provides you with a smooth drive in any gear. It's also important to note that this is no slouch - yes it may look on paper to be a bit low on power when you look at the competition, but let's be clear here, the Forester has more than enough grunt for any occasion.

On the road

One of the benefits of the Forester is in its ability to do off-road 'brilliantly'. The Forester really is fantastic, which is why it's probably the most preferred mode of transport for anyone who owns a farm - or the more adventurous type who prefers the muddy tracks of the outdoors rather than the city tarmac. To be honest, it makes little difference where you take the Forester, the end result will be the same.

The Forester is also a very stable

and well-balanced machine and a willing companion into bends, yet its comfortable enough in off-road mode or at times when you need it to become the long-distance mile eater at a minutes' notice.

Design & technology

The Subaru Forester offers you plenty of standard equipment such as, Auto HID headlamps with auto leveller, 17-inch aluminium alloy wheels, leather-wrapped steering wheel and gearshift knob, heated front seats, leather seating, dual-zone automatic air-conditioning system with anti-dust filter, automatic rain-sensing wipers, X-Mode, Hill Descent Control, Si-Drive (SUBARU Intelligent Drive), 7" multi-function colour touchscreen, reversing camera and Active Torque Split Symmetrical All-Wheel Drive System.

Yep, the list just keeps going with the addition of front SRS airbags, front, side and knee SRS airbags, ABS, brake override, whiplash-reducing front seats, DAB radio, Bluetooth, satellite



navigation, cruise control and a whole lot more that would put even the most well-equipped car to shame. Well done Subaru, that is one long list.

On the inside, there's also plenty of room for five adults to travel in comfort whilst the boot is capable of swallowing up to 1,557 litres of luggage capacity and 60/40 folding seats giving plenty of room for a family of five.

To sum up

The Subaru Forester is an impressive performer both on and off-road. The All Wheel Drive experience is ultra impressive and one of the main reasons why it's off-road potential and on-road manners are something that stands out by the bucket load.

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2013-63	VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 LTD EDITION, Grey, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 19100 Miles,	£5,995
2012-62	RENAULT CLIO 1.2 DYNAMIQUE TOM TOM ESTATE, Silver, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, Sat Nav, 10639 Miles,	WAS £5,495 NOW £5,295
2014-64	PEUGEOT 108 ACCESS 1.0, Red, 3 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, 80 Road Tax, 12750 Miles,	£5,495
2012-62	SEAT IBIZA 1.4 SE, Black, 3 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 51700 Miles,	£5,495
2014-64	FORD KA 1.2 EDGE, White, 3 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, WC, 16300 Miles,	WAS £5,495 NOW £4,995
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2010-60	HYUNDAI I30 1.6 EDITION, Red, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 52600 Miles,	WAS £4,995 NOW £4,795
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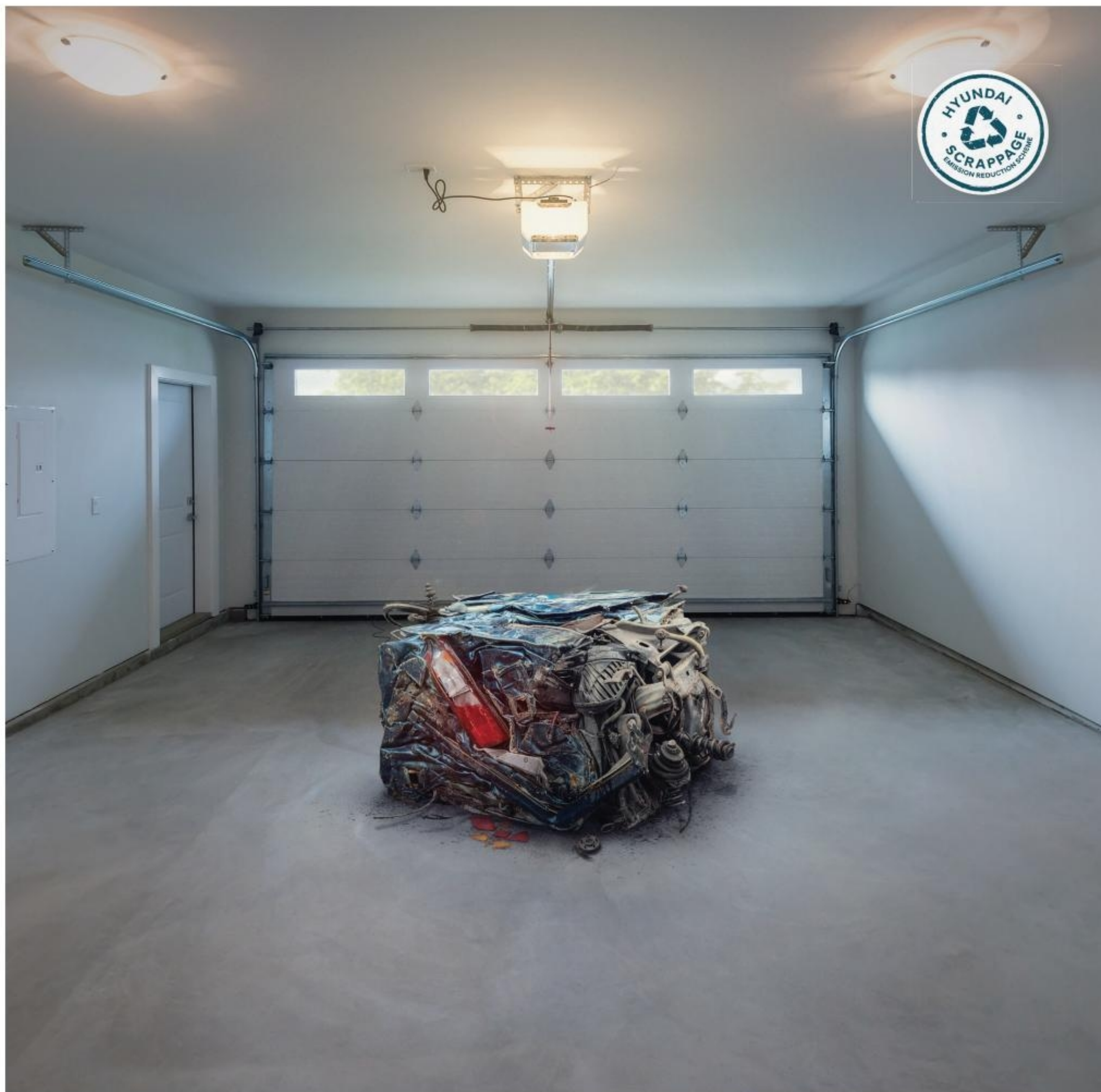
2011 60 AUDI A1 1.4 TFSI S LINE 3D 122 BHP In Grey, Petrol, 3 Door, 44k..... **£9,150**
2010 10 AUDI A4 1.8 TFSI SE 4D AUTO 158 BHP, In Silver, Petrol, 39,000 miles, 4 Door **£8,555**
2012 12 BMW 116 2.0 116D SE 114 BHP – diesel, manual; 2 seats, in black, 5dr, abs, pas, computer, twin airbags **£6,430**
2011 11 FORD FOCUS 1.6 TITANIUM X TDCI 5D 113 BHP, Diesel, manual, Air-con, Bluetooth, only 42,900 miles **£7,148**

2014 14 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 LIMITED EDITION 3D 83 BHP, black, traction control, a/c, rear wash/wipe, 41k **£5,595**
2007 57 MINI HATCH COOPER 1.6, 118 BHP, Silver, Petrol, Alloys, Keyless Start, ABS, 3 Dr, 63,300 miles **£3,540**
2011 11 FORD FOCUS 1.6 ZETEC 5D 100 BHP, Black, heated screen, e/h/mirrors, radio/CD, 65k **£3,250**

2014 14 SEAT LEON 1.4 TSI FR TECHNOLOGY 5Dr 140BHP in White, 36,900 miles, Petrol, ABS, Lumbar Support, Digital Cruise Control, 17" Alloys **£10,450**
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- 13 13 FORD FIESTA 1.0T TITANIUM X 5DR PETROL, white with half black leather, climate, dab radio, fsh, 36k £8,795
- 14 64 CITROEN DS3 1.6 DIESEL AIR DREAM STYLE PLUS 3DR MANUAL, white, radio/cd, alloys, fsh, 22k 1 owner £7,795
- 08 08 AUDI TT 2.0 TFSI COUPE MANUAL, met silver with half black leather/alcantara, alloys, radio/cd, 2 owners, s/h, 86k £7,695
- 14 64 PEUGEOT 208 1.2 VTI ACTIVE 5DR MANUAL, met grey, a/c, alloys, bluetooth, remote locking, 1 owner, 35k, s/h £6,995
- 10 10 FORD FIESTA 1.4 TITANIUM WITH ST KIT PETROL 3DR, white with burgundy leather seats, alloys, climate & cruise control, e/folding mirrors, front e/windows, radio/cd, Isofix, Spoiler, FSH, ONLY 24K £6,495
- 15 65 MG 3FORM SPORT 1.5 VVTI PETROL 5DR, red with style diamond cut alloys, aircon, bluetooth, DAB radio, Daytime LED lights, e/mirrors & windows, Isofix, Spoiler, 1 owner, FSH, 15K £6,495
- 12 12 SKODA FABIA 1.6 MONTE CARLO TDCI 5DR, Solid Red with black roof, Black alloys, aircon, e/mirrors & windows, radio/cd, FSH, 60K £6,295
- 14 63 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 ENERGY PETROL 5DR, met grey, alloys, aircon, e/mirrors & e/windows, Radio/CD, 1 owner, FSH, 50K £5,795
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- 13 63 HONDA CR-V 2.0 i-VTEC SR PETROL 5DR, met blue with half leather, alloys, alarm, bluetooth, climate & cruise control, e/windows, e/folding mirrors, Reverse camera, parking sensors, Xenon Lights, FSH, 23K £14,995
- 14 64 VAUXHALL ZAFIRA TOURER 2.0 ELITE CDTI 5DR, met brown with heated leather seats, alloys, DAB radio, e/windows + mirrors, parking sensors, 1 owner, fsh, 18k £12,495
- 12 12 PEUGEOT 5008 1.6 HDI 115 ACTIVE 5DR MANUAL, black, cruise, parking sensors, radio/cd, air con, fsh, 28k £8,495
- 14 14 RENAULT CAPTUR 0.9 DYNAMIQUE MEDIANAV ENERGY 5DR MANUAL, PETROL, met orange, fsh, 49k £8,495
- 11 61 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.6 PETROL ACENTA, met grey, bluetooth, auto lights and wipers, 1 owner, fsh, 64k £7,495
- 12 62 FORD B-MAX 1.5 TDCI ZETEC 5DR MANUAL, blue, alloys, aircon, bluetooth, DAB radio, e/mirrors + windows, heated screen, rear sliding doors, FSH, 52K £6,995

Automatics

- 16 65 MERCEDES C200 SE EXECUTIVE AUTO ESTATE PETROL, met silver with full black artico interior, sat nav, alloys, climate, e/windows and mirrors, fsh £18,295
- 17 17 MG GS 1.5T EXCLUSIVE AUTO white with black leather interior, sat nav, cruise control, climate control, 1 owner, 16k £17,495
- 13 63 MERCEDES-BENZ C220 AMG SPORT BLUE EFFICIENCY 4DR AUTO DIESEL, black with half black leather, alloys, bluetooth, climate & cruise control, sat nav, FMSH, 68k £11,995
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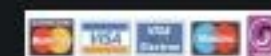
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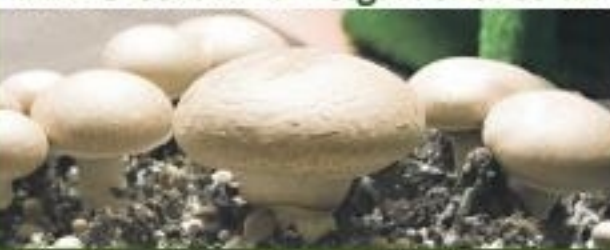
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Stars on wrong side of nine-goal thriller

By George Welch

Ice hockey

OXFORD City Stars' position at the top of the table is under threat after being edged out in a nine-goal thriller against closest rivals Bracknell Hornets.

In an almost perfect season so far for the Stars, the 9-6 defeat to Bracknell Hornets in September marked the only blot on the Stars' copybook.

It was a result Kenny Redmond's side were anxious to avenge, especially with the Hornets close behind them in the league.

But the Hornets proved too difficult to beat, coming out as the victors in a

closely fought game full of excitement. Victors Bracknell, who have only lost one league game this season, are now four points behind Oxford, who went into the match on a 12-match winning streak, with three games in hand.

The NIHL South2 pacesetters seized a first period lead when Matthew Lawday found the back of the net within four minutes.

Stars enjoyed the lead until midway through the middle period as the Hornets stung their hosts with a three-minute double.

Benjamin Ealey-Newman (28 minutes) and Tom Fisher (31) scored to flip the game and put Bracknell in charge.

Michael Whillock responded for Oxford two minutes later but Bracknell's Sean Scarbrough restored the lead before the final period.

The Hornets buzzed out for the third period and made it 5-2 within two minutes, Jack Tarczycki (41) and Adam Bicknell (42) extending the away side's lead.

The Stars called an immediate time-out. And it worked, as a couple of chances from Kamil Kinkor were followed up by a shot from Joshua Oliver that slammed into the net.

With two and a half minutes remaining Oxford, still two goals behind, took Milan Ronai out of net in favour of a sixth skater, and the move paid off as Kinkor – the ninth scorer of the match – finally netted.

But there wasn't enough time for City to equalise and the Hornets celebrated a deserved victory.

Stars will look to bounce back when they welcome Haringey Huskies (7th) to Oxpens Road on Sunday.



Kamil Kinkor celebrates his goal in front of Kingston Colts U10's football club. Picture: Paul Foster

Back in winter nets to build on 2017 success

Cricket

BICESTER & North Oxford Cricket Club's winter nets get under way this month as the club look to build on their 2017 successes.

B&NOCC saw off competition from Home Counties Premier League sides to lift the Wilf Bennett T20 Trophy in September, after a league campaign that saw their youth system bear fruit in the senior sides.

Nets for Under-17 and senior players start at 8pm on Wednesday, before moving to a regular Thursday slot at the same time the following week.

Former players Gary 'Sam' Sansome and Paul Jeacock have been tempted back to the club in a coaching capacity and will help out with training.

The 2018 season gets under way on May 5, with both first and second teams taking on relegated Great & Little Tew sides, and the third XI hosting Abingdon Vale fourths.

Junior nets start on Sunday, with Under-9s and Under-11s from 9am to 10am, and Under-13 and Under-15s from 10am to 11am.

Visit bnocc.com for more or tinyurl.com/y9jxn5tz to find more ways of getting involved in cricket.



B&NOCC celebrate winning the Wilf Bennett T20 trophy in 2017

Hedman flies into quarters

Darts

DETA Hedman has booked her place in the quarter finals of the BDO world darts championships with a comfortable 2-0 win over Norway's Rachna David.

Oxfordshire county player Hedman, 58, only lost one leg over the course of the match on Saturday evening, held at the Lakeside in Frimley Green, Surrey.

Hedman, who has more than 100 ranking titles to her name, is chasing her first world championship success, having reached the final on three previous occasions.

It was a steady start for Hedman in Saturday's game, taking advantage of David's missed doubles to claim the first leg against the throw.

Hedman started to find her rhythm and began off the second leg with three ton-plus scores, checking out on eight to extend her advantage.

David took a scruffy third leg, but Hedman soon wrapped up the opening set.

And three unanswered legs in the second set saw Hedman ease her way into the next round with an average close to 67.

She faces Sharon Prins in the quarter final today (Thursday), with the semi-finals taking place tomorrow and the final on Saturday.



Why not give rugby a try?

Rugby

A KIDLINGTON women's rugby team will hold a training camp for any women interested in trying rugby union next weekend.

To encourage women to kickstart their fitness routine in 2018, Gosford All Blacks Rugby Club will host a Warrior Camp on Saturday, January 20.

As part of England Rugby's nationwide Inner Warrior campaign to increase female participation in rugby union, the rugby club wants to encourage women "to experience the

dynamic, exhilarating sport of rugby for the first time within a fun-packed, commitment-free environment".

The Warrior Camps aim to encourage more women and girls to play contact rugby, teaching participants key introductory skills and drills within a non-committal, social and fun environment.

Participants will be introduced to the basics of rugby, including passing, kicking and tackling, along with enjoyable fitness routines.

The two-hour session will take place at the club, at Stratfield Brake Sports Ground on Frieze Way, at 2pm.

Wheatley make it to final of county shield against Littlemore

Rugby

A CONVINCING first half performance from Wheatley helped them through to the final of the Oxfordshire County Shield after swatting aside visitors Blue Boar 11-5.

The BBO Premiership side earned a deserved victory on the balance of

play, the men in purple dominating the opening period and scoring a try through scrum-half Jack Taylor on their way to an 8-0 half time lead.

Boar finished the half with 13 men with two binned for breakdown offences.

The away side's backline gave a better account for itself during a more evenly contested second period but, despite pulling a try back, were unable

to mount a comeback.

Wheatley will play Littlemore in the final at Iffley Road, date to be confirmed.

Wheatley return to league action with a trip to Crowthorne on Saturday. Also in the BBO Premiership, Abingdon travel to Bletchley, Littlemore play away at Chesham and Didcot host Slough.

Meanwhile, Chinnor surrendered

their perch at the top of National League 2 South after losing their first game of the season 35-20 at home to London Irish Wild Geese on Saturday.

Cinderford replaced them at the top, beating Henley 34-6 at home.

Saturday sees Henley, who remain sixth, host Tonbridge Juddian and Chinnor travel to third-placed Redingensians.



Wheatley's Caillin Taylor congratulates Jack Taylor on his try. Picture: Simon Chadbone

Sport

One hoop too many for City

By Owen Hughes

Oxford City

OXFORD City failed to make it back-to-back wins in the National League South after falling to a 3-2 defeat at Havant & Waterlooville on Tuesday.

The Hoops twice clawed their way back into the game but Havant's quality shone through with City unable to find a third reply against the team second in the table.

Matt Tubbs put the home side in front on nine minutes but City captain Godfrey Poku eventually found the bottom corner with a speculative effort on 51 minutes.

It took just three minutes for Theo Lewis to head the south coast club back in front before Matt Paterson converted a spot kick against his former team when Zac McEachran was brought down in the box in the 59th minute.

The visitors were trailing again when Tubbs had an easy tap in for his second of the night on 78 minutes and things went from bad to worse when Reece Fleet was shown a second yellow card seven minutes from time.

The midweek defeat comes off the back of a successful trip to Hungerford Town at the weekend where two first half goals from Paterson and Rob Sinclair were enough for the Hoops to claim all three points in a 2-1 win.

Oxford United recalled 20-year-old keeper Jack Stephens on Monday, leaving manager Mark Jones with a late scramble to draft in Luke Sanders from Oxford City Nomads.

Jones said: "To lose your goalkeeper at 9.30pm the night before an important game like this was difficult for us.

"We were trying to look around for keepers at late notice and in the end we went with Luke [Sanders] and that didn't help us at all with our preparations to be honest.

"But overall I was encouraged with our performance and if we keep playing with that same enthusiasm and that same quality, we'll win a lot more games this season and it was a shame we couldn't get a point tonight."

The result leaves them 17th on 28 points in the Vanarama National League South.

City welcome bottom of the table Whitehawk to Marsh Lane on Saturday.



Rob Sinclair scored the second of City's goals against Hungerford at the weekend. Picture: Michael Allen

Railwaymen rally to draw despite being down to 10 men

Evo Stik round-up

AN irrepressible 10-man Didcot Town twice fought back from two goals down to rescue a point against Shortwood United on Saturday.

The resilient Railwaymen battled back from 2-0 and 3-1 down to draw 3-3, despite Ollie Thomas being dismissed for a two-footed challenge

on 35 minutes.

After a positive start for the visitors, Andy Ballard's men found themselves 2-0 down within 17 minutes.

Sam Elkins reduced the deficit moments before Thomas received his marching orders.

Shortwood restored their two-goal advantage shortly after the restart but Didcot's fighting spirit meant the result was far from sealed.

Felipe Barcelos had a cross deflected into the net moments later and, with six minutes remaining, Marlon Agyakwa found the bottom corner to extend Diddy's unbeaten run to five games.

Elsewhere in Evo-Stik South West, Kidlington beat Barnstaple Town 5-2 at home to collect their first win in five games.

Declan Benjamin, Duran Martin,

Darius Browne and Lewis Coyle were all on target for the Greens. The third goal was an own goal.

North Leigh's torrid form continued with a 1-1 draw to Slimbridge at Eynsham Park on Saturday and a 4-1 defeat to Yate Town at the same stadium on Tuesday.

In the East division, Thame United had Saturday's game at Moneyfields postponed due to a waterlogged pitch.

Markham and Robertson doubles fire Freds up table

Hellenic round-up

TWO goals in each half helped Wantage Town to a convincing 4-0 win at Lydney Town as the Freds kept the pressure on at the top of the table.

The south Oxfordshire side returned to winning ways, opening 2018 with maximum points having lost 3-1 to promotion rivals Thatcham Town on

Boxing Day. With Thatcham not in league action over the weekend, third-placed Wantage moved to within seven points of second spot.

Ryan Markham and Steve Robertson scored a goal each in both halves as Lydney failed to combat a strong Town side.

Markham opened the scoring on five minutes before Robertson doubled the lead with a goal just before half time.

It was 3-0 on 75 minutes when Markham converted from the spot. Robertson rounded off the win with his brace two minutes before the end.

Meanwhile, Abingdon United began the calendar year with successive 1-1 draws at Ascot United and Woodley United.

A 35th minute Callum Harvey goal cancelled out Barry Dunbar's early goal against Ascot to earn United a

point on Saturday.

And they had to come from behind again on Monday, John Dennis this time pulling them level against Woodley.

Oxford City Nomads didn't play but travel to Fairford Town on Saturday before hosting Flackwell Heath on Tuesday.

Saturday sees Abingdon play away at Tuffley Rovers while Wantage host Ascot.

Vanarama National League South

Saturday 6 January
Hungerford Town 1-2 Oxford City
Tuesday 9 January
Havant & Waterlooville 3-2 Oxford City

Evo-Stik South Premier

Saturday 6 January
Banbury United 1-0 Hitchin Town
Wednesday 10 January
Farnborough v Banbury United (match after going to press)

Evo-Stik South East

Saturday 6 January
Moneyfields P-P Thame United

Evo-Stik South West

Saturday 6 January
Kidlington 5-2 Barnstaple Town
North Leigh 1-1 Slimbridge
Shortwood United 3-3 Didcot Town
Tuesday 9 January
North Leigh 1-4 Yate Town

UHSport Hellenic League Premier Division

Saturday 6 January
Ascot United 1-1 Abingdon United
Lydney Town 0-4 Wantage Town
Monday 8 January
Woodley United 1-1 Abingdon United

Puritans climb table after wins

Banbury United

A JUBILANT Mike Ford was full of praise for his players as Banbury United ground out a 1-0 win at home to Hitchin Town, despite being reduced to 10 men late on.

Striker Leam Howards, who had a hand in setting up the winner for Jack Self, was sent off on 70 minutes.

But the Puritans, who remain ninth, hung on for back-to-back victories to move within five points of the Evo-Stik South League Premier Division play-offs.

The winner against in-form Hitchin came two minutes after the interval when Howards, introduced at half time, expertly found Ricky Johnson whose shot was saved.

The rebound fell to Self, who swivelled and fired into the bottom corner for the only goal of the game.

Boss Ford said: "Everything I asked the players to do they did, we showed great resolve to win that game and it's a great three points against an in-form team.

"They were outstanding, it was the complete opposite to our last home performance but the players have now set a standard they need to maintain.

"When we went down to 10 men I was quite calm about it.

"I just felt we weren't going to concede even though they had a couple of chances late on.

"After the red card I didn't want to simply defend our lead, that's why I kept two strikers up top."

United were due to play away at Farnborough last night (Wednesday).

They face two more away fixtures at Bishop's Stortford and Redditch United on Saturday and Tuesday.

Harry's 16 points help secure good win as Eagles soar

Basketball

A STRONG performance from top-scorer Akira Harry help his Abingdon Eagles Under-16 side overcome Oxford City Hoops for the second time this season.

Harry shot 16 points in Saturday's 81-41 win over their rivals. The Eagles dominated play for most of the game with the Hoops unable to score when they were under the basket.

Abingdon, who beat Oxford 122-47 in October, played with both skill and speed to put on a good all round performance.

Harry top-scored with 16, while Asher Easton had a superb game at

both ends of the court scoring 15 points.

Abingdon Eagles, who travel to Milton Keynes Trojans on Saturday, are now fifth in the East II section of the National Basketball League.

The Hoops, second bottom in 11th, host West Herts Warriors (3rd).

In the men's Division Four competition, Oxford Stealers picked up just their third win of the season when they beat London United 78-73 on Saturday.

Oxford City Hoops had less success however, losing 73-57 against leaders Huish Taunton Tigers at Henley College on Sunday.

Hoops play away at London United (5th) on Sunday, a day after the Stealers host Thames Valley Cavaliers II (6th).



Abingdon Eagles U16, left, and Oxford Hoops U16 before the game

Seasiders washed up by avenging defeat from U's

By George Welch

Oxford United 1

Jon Obika 80

Blackpool 0

Attendance: 6,775 (411 away)

A LATE goal from Jon Obika gave Oxford United back-to-back home wins for the first time this season as they beat Blackpool 1-0 at the Kassam on Saturday.

Substitute Alex Mowatt, introduced in the 79th minute, made an instant impact, swinging in a free kick with his first touch for Obika to glance home a headed winner – his seventh of the season.

United manager Pep Clotet said the second win of the year, which included a first clean sheet in five games, was “a big step forward”.

The result was arguably harsh on the Seasiders, who were thwarted by multiple fine saves from keeper Simon Eastwood.

But that won't bother Clotet,



Alex Mowatt's swinging free kick gave Jon Obika the goal

who was desperate to avenge the disappointment of the 3-1 reverse in the north west in September.

The U's need to work on their finishing – Gino van Kessel the guiltiest party after wasting a glorious chance within 10 minutes – but United were stern in defence.

Clotet said: “I remember Blackpool away and we knew how hard that was going to be and we knew how important it was to keep a clean sheet

[on Saturday].

“We missed a few chances...but the defensive side was superb.

“Our tempo going forward is good but you need more intensity to defend than to attack.

“Sometimes we try to attack at the same intensity with defending and that leads to a lot of apprehensions and bad choices.

“But I'm not that worried because I will speak to the team and sort it out.

“For us defensively this game shows a big step forward.”

Van Kessel wasted a golden opportunity within 10 minutes when he went for goal instead of feeding Wes Thomas in a better position.

Thomas fired just wide on the hour but it was Eastwood, who has been linked with a move to Championship Barnsley in recent days, who proved his worth with three excellent saves.

But the United winner arrived 10 minutes from time, Obika heading home Mowatt's free kick for his third goal in three games.

Thomas could have made the points safe two minutes later, poking an effort straight at Christoffer Mafoumbi, but Obika's goal proved enough for the win.

Strike partner is making me stronger

RED-HOT Jon Obika believes he is reaping the rewards of having a strike partner alongside him to lead Oxford United's attack.

The striker netted an 80th minute winner against Blackpool on Saturday to score his third goal in as many matches.

The goal meant the former Swindon Town man scored in three successive games for the first time since 2014.

Obika, who is now on seven goals for the season, believes manager Pep Clotet's decision to change from a 4-4-1-1 formation to a 4-4-2 shape is behind his upturn in form.

The 27-year-old has started up top with partner Wes Thomas in the last four games, which has returned seven goals compared to just two goals in the four games previously.

Obika said: “Having two up front is important because even with the 10 – even though Jack Payne is fantastic – you are up against two centre halves instead of one so it can be very tough.

“You end up doing a lot of the fighting and not attacking so with two



Jon Obika runs through the Blackpool defence. Picture: Steve Daniels

we share the load.”

While Obika is in goal-scoring form, top-scorer Thomas is also finding the net, having scored in the New Year's

Day 3-1 win over Milton Keynes Dons.

Obika has seven goals in 12 starts and 13 sub appearances while Thomas has netted 10 times in 24 appearances.

Bright start but defeat to kick off new year

OUFCW

OXFORD United Women kicked off 2018 with an entertaining match against Durham that ended in defeat.

An encouraging early goal from top scorer Kayleigh Hines wasn't enough for any points as United failed to build on their bright start, eventually losing 4-2 at Court Place Farm.

Hines' fourth goal of the campaign came after just four minutes when the forward stabbed home a rebound.

The lead didn't last too long though

as Durham got their response midway through the first half.

The Wildcats pressed high and pounced on a loose ball, Beth Hepple managing to slot the ball into the bottom corner.

More goals and drama was to follow in the second half.

After Demi Lambourne had made a couple of terrific stops in the Oxford goal Zoe Ness made it 2-1 to the away side on the hour mark.

And it was 3-1 in the 68th minute when the home side failed to deal with a corner, Sarah Robson profiting for

her second goal in just her second appearance.

U's substitute Chloe Chivers had a goal disallowed before Ellis Hillman struck a sweet left-footed shot into the top corner to narrow the deficit to one on 82 minutes.

But Durham retaliated immediately and, just a minute later, Ness scored her second of the afternoon from a corner.

United, winless in nine and in mid-table, are back in action against Aston Villa at Court Place Farm on January 28.



Royals youngster moves across the Thames Valley

OXFORD United have completed their first signing of the transfer window by bringing in former England Under-19 international Rob Dickie from Reading for an undisclosed fee.

The experienced 21-year-old centre-half is known for his ability to play out from the back and spent the first half of the season in League 2 on loan at Lincoln City.

Dickie said: “Since I heard Oxford were interested, I just wanted to come here because I was quite attracted by the style that the manager likes to play.

“I like to bring the ball out from the back, I like to think of myself as quite composed and from set pieces I like to get myself in the box and get a few goals.”

The Royals academy graduate

enjoyed a loan spell at Basingstoke Town before winning the National League at Cheltenham Town two years ago, rejoining the Robins last season again on loan.

Manager Pep Clotet said: “Rob is a very hungry young player who we have been monitoring for a while now.

“He is strong, has a fantastic attitude and good technical and physical attributes. We are delighted that he has chosen to join us.

“He's played around 100 games across three different leagues despite his age, and at 21 we believe that he will continue to develop as a player and we think he will be a very positive asset for us.”

Dickie received his first and only call up to the England Under-19's squad in 2014.

SkyBet League 1		GP	GD	PTS
1	Wigan Athletic	25	38	56
2	Shrewsbury Town	25	18	54
3	Blackburn Rovers	25	22	49
4	Scunthorpe United	26	15	49
5	Bradford City	26	8	48
6	Portsmouth	26	3	41
7	Rotherham United	26	9	40
8	Charlton Athletic	26	1	40
9	Peterborough United	26	6	39
10	Oxford United	27	3	38
11	Doncaster Rovers	26	1	34
12	Plymouth Argyle	27	-5	34
13	Fleetwood Town	26	-4	33
14	Blackpool	27	-4	32
15	Bristol Rovers	26	-7	32
16	Gillingham	26	-2	31
17	Southend United	27	-14	31
18	Walsall	25	-3	30
19	MK Dons	26	-10	29
20	Oldham Athletic	27	-10	28
21	AFC Wimbledon	25	-9	27
22	Northampton Town	27	-24	26
23	Rochdale	25	-10	22
24	Bury	26	-22	17



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Shearer helps take U's nearer to another final

By George Welch

Charlton Athletic 1

Karlan Ahearne-Grant 7

Oxford United 1

Wes Thomas 54

Oxford win 3-0 on penalties

Attendance: 1,146 (122 away)

OXFORD United will find out today who their Checkatrade Trophy quarter-final opponents are.

The U's progressed into the last eight with a penalty shootout win at fellow League One side Charlton Athletic on Tuesday night.

The scores were 1-1 after 90 minutes as a clinical finish from Wes Thomas nine minutes into the second half cancelled out an early Karlan Ahearne-Grant 20-yarder.

Stand-in stopper Scott Shearer, in the Oxford goal for the injured Simon Eastwood, was the hero as the game went straight to penalties.

The 36-year-old Glaswegian saved two penalties from Johnnie Jackson and Stephy Mavididi, before Reeco Hackett-Fairchild blasted over as the Yellows secured their spot in the next round with a 3-0 shootout win.

Alex Mowatt and Jon Obika converted and, despite Ryan Ledson's effort being saved by Dillon Phillips in the Charlton goal, Agon Mehmeti confidently fired into the top corner to send United through.

Pleased to leap a step closer to another Wembley appearance for the club, manager Pep Clotet praised his side's second half performance.

United players rush to celebrate with keeper Scott Shearer after the penalty shoot out success
Picture: Steve Daniels



The Spaniard, who has insisted there have been no bids for any of his players in the transfer window, said: "The game was very difficult from the beginning but we improved to win the game and the players showed a fantastic attitude, commitment, spirit, leadership and quality. I'm very satisfied with the performance."

"[We improve in the second half because] we have very good communication at half time and the players have good fitness levels. The players

always have desire."

The Addicts dominated the first half and took control when Ahearne-Grant got the better of right back Canice Carroll and fired impressively beyond Shearer.

Ahmed Kashi tested Shearer before the break but Thomas levelled the tie on 54 minutes when he out-muscled Anfernee Dijksteel, slotting the ball between the legs of Phillips.

Jack Payne, Jon Obika and Malachi Napa all went close to a winner

for United while, at the other end, Mark Marshall and Arsenal loanee Mavididi should have scored.

Oxford survived the late scares and quickly despatched their hosts on penalties.

The Checkatrade Trophy quarter-final draw will take place on EFL Matters on Sky Sports Football at 7pm today (Thursday).

United could face any of the remaining seven teams as the draw is not regionalised.

Shear quality, Pep's verdict on penalty hero keeper

BACKUP Oxford United keeper Scott Shearer put in a performance of shear quality as the U's moved to within two games from Wembley.

Shearer, making only his second United start, was the hero as he prevented Charlton scoring from the spot, saving from Johnnie Jackson and Stephy Mavididi before Reeco Hackett-Fairchild fluffed over.

The veteran stopper said: "It doesn't matter how you get through these ties it's just getting through."

"It was a solid second half performance, we caused a lot of problems and the lads worked very hard so we're delighted to get through."

"I loved it [playing]. I knew coming here I would be limited to minutes and I see why with Simon's performances. I'm just going to enjoy every minute I get out there."

Boss Pep Clotet was delighted with Shearer's contribution: "I'm very satisfied for him more than anyone because he doesn't play much and he's shown how good a professional he is."

"He's a leader for the lads in the dressing room and he always remains focused."

"The way he got the result the way he did it is fantastic."

Usual number one Simon Eastwood missed out with a shoulder injury, paving the way for Shearer's first appearance since playing against Brighton's academy side in October.

Youngster Jack Stevens has been recalled from his loan spell at Oxford City to provide extra cover.

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